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THE TIMES

Could you be a top decision maker?
Lord Rothschild, p 10

Christmas vigil by bomb squad

Fears grew last night that bomb attacks might continue in London in spite of the Provisional IRA's ceasefire. Bomb experts believe the terrorists' explosives might become so unstable that indiscriminate attacks would be made to get rid of unsafe stocks.

Scotland Yard's bomb squad has been placed on full alert throughout the Christmas period.

Heath visit to troops

By Clive Borrell

Scotland Yard's 100-strong bomb squad was placed on full alert for the whole of the Christmas period last night as fears grew that bomb attacks might continue in London in spite of the Provisional IRA's eleven-day ceasefire.

Experts believe that terrorists' stocks of explosives, especially gelignite, will become so unstable and dangerous during the ceasefire period that indiscriminate attacks may be made by IRA sympathizers anxious to get rid of the materials.

Commander Robert Huntley, head of the bomb squad, who was still working last night on the blast at Mr Heath's home in Wilton Street, Belgravia, has ordered his deputies to tell him immediately of any further explosions.

He is spending Christmas in London and has told his staff that he will be on the scene of any bomb blast in the Metropolitan area within ten minutes. No extra policemen apart from the bomb squad will be deployed in London during the holiday period. But a "shuffling" of duties will mean that sensitive" diplomatic premises will still be patrolled by armed police officers day and night.

Mr Heath, who flew to Northern Ireland yesterday for meetings with politicians and security forces, drafted a letter to the Prime Minister before he left.

Thanking Mr Wilson for his personal letter of sympathy after a 2lb bomb had been thrown on to the balcony of his home on Sunday, Mr Heath said: I much appreciated your personal letter of sympathy delivered to me last night after the bomb attack on my home. I am glad to say that no one in the house was injured. As you say in your letter, policy towards Northern Ireland is bipartisan. Nothing the bombers have done or can do will weaken the united resolve of the British people, represented by this united front at Westminster, to defeat the terrorists and to achieve a fair political settlement in the province.

The tragedy is that the men of violence have so little understanding of the British people as to think that their terror tactics weaken our determination. The sooner they learn that we are not that kind of a nation, the fewer lives will be pointlessly lost.

When Mr Heath returns to London after his two-day tour of Ulster a Special Branch detective will discreetly shadow him.

Like most politicians, Mr Heath would prefer to travel about the country unguarded, but last night Scotland Yard officials were discussing ways of tightening personal security of some MPs. The Leader of the Opposition was high on the list of priorities. He cannot be given an official guard without his consent but the Yard may now decide to monitor his public movements with greater care and strength.

Aldershot hunt: A thousand troops on Christmas leave throughout Britain will be visited by detectives hunting terrorists who planted a bomb on Aldershot station as troops were going home on leave last Friday.

The operation has been launched by Det Chief Supt Cyril Holdaway, head of Hampshire CID, who is leading the investigations. He said: "We are anxious to jog the memory of these men before too long a time has passed."

After the holiday, when the soldiers have returned to their units, they will be interviewed again.

The bomb which was in a holdall, was made harmless.

Stewart Tendler writes from Belfast: Mr Heath yesterday spent much of the first day of his 48-hour tour in Northern Ireland travelling by helicopter from one place to the next as part of the strict security surrounding his movements.

As soon as he arrived at RAF Aldegrove he walked from his aircraft to a helicopter and flew to the headquarters of the Royal Ulster Constabulary in Belfast. He met Mr James Flanagan, the chief constable, before flying on to army headquarters at Lisburn for a briefing and lunch with Lieutenant-General Sir Frank King, the GOC.

In the afternoon Mr Heath met troops and police officers manning posts near the border and Londonderry. He went for a brief walk through Londonderry speaking to troops and shoppers and was greeted with cries of "Up the Provos" from people in one crowd.

Early in the evening he returned to Belfast to meet former members of the Northern Ireland Executive at the Parliament buildings before dinner at Stormont Castle with Mr Rees, the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland.

At a press conference last night, Mr Heath was questioned about the ceasefire called by the Provisional IRA. He said: "We have had ceasefires before and I think we have to wait and see whether this one is meaningful. I find today everybody is cautious about it. There have been false alarms in the past."

On the possibility of freeing detainees, Mr Heath said they had been released before by Mr Whitelaw and Mr Pym on the basis of a reciprocal gesture but "one is bound to ask oneself: What does a reciprocal gesture really gain?"

Leaders of the loyalist coalition refused invitations to meet Mr Heath today as one group because he is going to meet the Social Democratic and Labour Party, the Unionist Party of Northern Ireland and the Alliance Party as individual parties, although they were together in the Executive.

Eventually it was agreed that Mr Heath would meet Mr Harry West, leader of the official Unionists; the Rev Ian Paisley, leader of the Democratic Unionist Party, and Mr William Craig, Vanguard leader, separately rather than together.

Mr Heath meeting soldiers of the 1st Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers, in Londonderry yesterday during his two-day tour of Northern Ireland.

Home Office pays £17,500 to man wrongfully jailed for five years

By Robert Parker

Mr Laszlo Virag, who was wrongfully jailed for five years, has been awarded £17,500, the largest ex-gratia payment ever made for wrongful imprisonment. But Mr Virag said yesterday that he was disappointed with the offer and was accepting it only reluctantly.

The Home Office announced the payment yesterday after an independent inquiry. Another ex-gratia payment of £2,000 was made to Mr Luke Dougherty, from Sunderland, who spent nine months in prison after being wrongfully convicted of theft. Both men's legal costs were also paid.

Mr Virag, who was sentenced in 1969 to 10 years after being convicted of shooting and wounding a policeman, theft, driving offences and using weapons to resist, had asked for compensation of £30,000.

The previous largest ex-gratia payment for wrongful imprisonment was £5,000 in 1906, worth much more in today's terms than Mr Virag's award.

Like Mr Dougherty, Mr Virag was a victim of mistaken identification. He was convicted on the evidence of several policemen and other witnesses. At the time of his alleged crimes in Bristol, he was 130 miles away in a London club with his wife. Nine witnesses testified to that at the trial.

When it was discovered that Mr Virag and Mr Dougherty had been wrongfully imprisoned, the Home Secretary announced the setting up of a committee under Lord Devlin to inquire into identification procedures. The terms of reference were: To review, in the light of the wrongful convictions of Mr Luke Dougherty and Mr Laszlo Virag, and of other relevant cases, all aspects of the law and procedure relating to evidence of identification in criminal cases, and to make recommendations.

Mr Virag fled to Britain from his native Hungary after the uprisings in 1956. He now lives with his wife and two sons, aged 11 and seven, in Windsor and is trying to re-establish himself as a self-employed painter and decorator.

Mr Virag was released from Parkhurst prison on the Isle of Wight on April 5, and has been granted a free pardon. Yesterday he said through his solicitor that he wanted to correct the impression that his release was due to police activity.

"It was only through a friend that Mr Virag was able to suggest who had committed the offences and then bring pressure on the authorities", the solicitor, Mr Paul Carvis, said. No charges had so far been brought against another person.

Mr Carvis also criticized the procedure for deciding the compensation, based on written representations made by the Home Office and the clients to an independent assessor.

He said: "All the time, it was emphasized that this was an ex-gratia payment, as if we had to go cap-in-hand to get a golden handshake. This should be a statutory payment, dealt with by a court. We have no idea at all how the £17,500 is made up or which of our submissions were accepted and which rejected."

However, Mr Dougherty and his solicitor said they were both reasonably happy with the sum and with the procedure. Mr Dougherty was convicted of theft in 1973, but he later established an alibi for the offence. He was released on bail on November 14, 1973, on the direction of the Court of Appeal, which later quashed the conviction.

Both Mr Virag and Mr Dougherty had previous records for theft and had been in prison before.

The Home Office statement yesterday said the awards were "in compensation for the hardship which they suffered in consequence of wrongful conviction and imprisonment".

319 alleged victims of African ruler named

From Harry Debelius
Madrid, Dec 23

Refugees from the young African nation of Equatorial Guinea furnished a list here today of 319 persons who they say have been executed by order of President Francisco Macias Nguema.

The killings, they claimed, are but one indication of a reign of terror in the past five years by Mr Macias Nguema, the "lifetime President". They alleged that the former Spanish colony on the west coast of Africa, which won independence in 1968, has become an absolute dictatorship. Christian churches are persecuted, they said, citizens are deprived of their right to vote, the original constitution is suppressed illegally and political suspects are judged by "kangaroo" courts.

Their list of dead includes 11 members or high officials of the autonomous government which preceded independence; 11 members of high officials of President Macias's own Government; nine members of the National Assembly; five members of provincial councils; two members of the Council of the Republic (a high official advisory body); 67 civil servants; 21 officers and non-commissioned officers of the armed forces and police; 31 businessmen and landowners; 105 farmers and farmworkers; 10 women who were wives or close relatives of opponents of the regime; 12 students ranging from 13 to 18 years of age; 21 village chiefs and three others not classified by occupation.

Equatorial Guinea, which borders on the Cameroon Republic and Gabon and lies just under the bulge of the West African coast, consists of two provinces, the island of Macias Nguema (formerly Fernando Poo) and the mainland province of Rio Muni.

According to Equatorial Guineans living in exile here, the population has been depleted by a massive exodus, with 50,000 to 70,000 refugees fleeing to the Cameroon Republic and about 5,000 going to Spain.

Among the more prominent members of Mr Macias's Government who are reported to have been killed were Mr Atanasio Ndongo Miyono, Minister of Foreign Affairs (died March 5, 1969); Mr Jesus Eguero Ndongo, Minister of Justice (May 19, 1971); Mr Expedito Rafael Momo Bocara, Minister of Justice (May 10, 1974); Mr Roman Botico Tobichoa, Minister of Labour (May 10, 1974); Mr Gustavo Watson Bueco, ambassador to the Cameroon Republic (July 19, 1971).

Apart from political problems, the refugees said that their country suffers from massive unemployment as a result of mismanagement by the Macias Government. They said there are shortages of everything and that a bar of soap costs 77p and a bottle of cooking oil nearly £2. They also alleged that the President has been treated, and is still being treated, for mental illness.

The exiles claimed that more people have been killed for political reasons in the past five years than throughout the entire period of colonial domination of their country.

They assessed the medical conditions as "alarming" with probably not more than two doctors remaining in the whole country. There has also been a "lamentable abandonment" of education, since the expulsion, assassination or imprisonment of many teachers.

Ethiopian warning to people of Asmara

Addis Ababa, Dec 23.—Ethiopia's military rulers tonight called on the people of Asmara, the provincial Eritrean capital where fighting broke out last night between guerrillas and the Ethiopian Army, to "throw the rebels out of the town" or face military action.

In a communiqué broadcast tonight over the Asmara radio the Armed Forces Committee announced that four people had been killed and 41 seriously wounded in "inhuman incidents" created by supporters of the Eritrean "rebellion". The incidents had been intended to demonstrate opposition to the idea of Ethiopian unity, it said.

Earlier, military and civilian hospital sources had unofficially set the figures of dead and wounded at six soldiers and five civilians killed. At least 28 soldiers and 35 civilians had been wounded.

The night in Asmara was marked by bomb explosions followed by heavy fighting. Late reports from Asmara said tanks were circulating in the city.

Tonight's communiqué said the military rulers had previously considered the Eritrean Liberation Front (ELF) guerrillas had been fighting against the former regime of the Emperor Haile Selassie.

"We now realize that the rebels are in fact fighting against the Ethiopian people themselves.

"Now we call on the residents of Asmara to throw the rebels out of the town and to wage war on their supporters. If you do not do this you will regret the consequences of the action which we will be forced to take in chasing the rebels out of the country."—Agence France-Presse.

trike forces iversion 7 holiday ights

hristmas holidaymakers were ected yesterday when more two hundred flights and nt 10,000 passengers were cled from Gatwick to Luton, diff, Bristol and Bournemouth because of an unofficial e by British Airports Autho workers.

owever, the airport was cted to be operating normtoday. The strike, in support claim for a local allowance lar to Heathrow's London hting, was timed to end at ight.

Heathrow, British Airways 200 extra flights for Christweek, and the European on alone expects to carry 00 more passengers.

ovite destinations for holiabroad are Palma, Nice, Gibraltar, Athens aris. Belfast accounts for tra flights, while 500 chilare being flown to join parents abroad.

ish Rail carried many mas travellers during the d but still expects a big oday. Southern Region is 47 extra trains. Eastern commented: "We the trains to be well tomorrow. Certainly people than usual are ng."

the roads, the picture s to be different. The elieves motorists are a serious attempt to n casual runs, and that y reduce accidents over day.

okesman said: "What e price of petrol, we people to stay off the nd there should be no from the weather."

hopping rush continues, Marks and Spencer shopping reached its Saturday and has now f a little.

kesman said: "Despite omic crisis, people cer not seem to be spendthis year. Our sales up to expectations.

e are two points of g round at the moment. at people should hang ney and buy nothing, other one says: 'Go spend it because soon e going to cost twice '.

British public, with its od sense, is probably the middle course."

e fault hits e links

ersea cable failure cut telephone and Telex between Britain and ica yesterday. The Post had set up emerto circuits, but these carry dialled calls.

e fault was unlikely ed before Christmas, said. As many calls should go through the was hoped that all r-connected Christcready booked could

Strong powers proposed for Greek president

From Mario Modiano
Athens, Dec 23

The Greek Government today constitution. This establishes a parliamentary republic under a president vested with broad executive and legislative powers, who is to be elected for a five-year term by a two-thirds majority of Parliament.

It is quite clear that Mr Constantine Karamanlis, the Prime Minister, has reserved this role for himself. His New Democracy party, which controls 220 out of 300 seats in Parliament has the power both to promulgate the new charter and elect its leader as president.

Under this draft, the president appoints and dismisses the prime minister and has the right to dissolve Parliament if he believes that its composition comes in conflict with popular sentiment or it is unable to produce stable governments. For this task, the president obtains the advice (which is not binding) of the Council of the Republic, a body composed of the democratically elected former presidents and prime ministers, the ruling prime minister, the president of Parliament, and the leader of the Opposition.

After parliamentary elections, which will be held every five years, the president must appoint the leader of the majority majority, an expressing, other date is given to the leader of the strongest party. He must put together a government enjoying the confidence of Parliament's majority. If he fails, the president appoints a prime minister after hearing the opinion of the Council of the Republic.

The Government's draft gives the president the right to return to Parliament legislation listing his objections. Parliament must then muster a majority of three fifths to overrule them. The president also is empowered to issue emergency decrees subject to Parliament's ratification, as well as laws concerning the internal structure of the public administration—including the armed forces, which are thus made impervious to Opposition interventions.

The president may proclaim a state of siege in the face of war, internal or external dangers, and suspend nine articles of the constitution; but this state is automatically ended after two months unless prolonged by Parliament.

If Parliament fails to elect a president with a two-thirds majority after three runs, the Chamber dissolves itself and new Parliament claimed. If the the required majority the first time, the contest is then limited to the two leading candidates and the president is elected by a simple majority.

Although the powers and prerogatives of the president in the Government draft fall short of the Gaullist prototype said to have been favoured by Mr Karamanlis, a spokesman said today that the draft represented for the Government the minimum desirable reinforcement of the executive. The Government hoped these powers would be bolstered in the course of exhaustive parliamentary debates on the draft in the next three or four months.

The draft, while enhancing the powers of the head of state, has also sought to protect the Government from undue harassment in Parliament. In fact, a no-confidence vote can only be taken six months after the previous one. The opposition would need an absolute majority to overthrow the Government. The draft also states that deputies cannot cross the floor: they must resign.

Parliament is divided into three sections to accelerate the legislative process, while the speaker shall deal only with imposed on amendments and long speeches. The voting age is kept at 21, and the free and fair expression of the people's will becomes an obligation for all state functionaries.

The Government draft strengthens the guarantees on individual liberties and makes respect for human values an obligation for the state, together with the protection of human rights and the ban on tortures.

The formation of political parties is free, but those whose aims and activities are subversive are outlawed by a special tribunal of 13 senior judges and jurists.

The draft upholds the constitutional guarantees for all foreign investments. However, there is a provision for nationalization or state participation in monopolies or in enterprises involved in the exploitation of vital national resources.

"Private economic activity cannot be developed to the detriment of national security, freedom, human dignity, nor at the expense of the national economy", the draft says.

Rescue flight to Argentine navy ship in Channel

Two seamen were killed and a third was badly burnt in a boiler explosion in an Argentine tank-landing craft anchored six or seven miles off Hastings yesterday.

Pedro Daniel Cena, aged 23, was flown ashore by an RAF helicopter from Manston, Kent, and was critically ill with extensive burns last night in the Royal East Sussex Hospital.

Earlier the helicopter had carried a doctor from the Hastings lifeboat to the 9,000-ton Candido de Lasala, a former United States landing ship (tank) which had more than 300 men on board.

The warship de Lasala sent out a distress call at 11.30 a.m. The lifeboat was launched immediately, carrying Dr Peter Davy, who ended up in the water for nearly two minutes during the winching manoeuvre performed in fairly rough conditions. He flew back with the injured sailor.

The two unnamed dead men remained on the warship, which headed for Portsmouth.

The Argentine Embassy said yesterday that it did not know what the ship was doing in the Channel. A full statement was promised for today.

The British Ministry of Defence said the ship was on the high seas and therefore free to come and go. No stop was scheduled in this country.

The vessel later asked for two tugs to tow her into Portsmouth naval base.

'The Times'

In common with other national newspapers, *The Times* will not be published on Christmas Day and Boxing Day.

Gold price record after Paris pledge

The gold price jumped to a new record level on world bullion markets yesterday. It rose $5 (about £2) an ounce in London to end the day's trading at $193 an ounce. This was 12.25 above the previous record established in mid-November. The rise followed the apparent understanding reached between France and Iran over France's stated intention to revalue its stock of monetary gold, at present valued at only $42.22 an ounce. Shah reassured, page 4.

Threat of farm strikes

Agricultural workers' leaders may call for selective strikes to win local pay increases after yesterday's decision by the Agricultural Wages Board to reject a demand for a weekly minimum wage of £35. The board's offer of £28.50 from January 20, rising to £30.30 in July, was approved only on the vote of the five independent members. Page 2

Pendil's target

Pendil, the country's leading steeplechaser, attempts to become the first horse to win the King George VI Steeplechase three times at Kempton Park on Boxing Day. Michael Phillips and Jim Snow preview eight holiday racing programmes, which are carried in full Page 14

Rush for state aid

Increasing pressure on costs and profits has led to a big increase in the number of industrial companies applying for state aid. The Department of Industry has processed 360 applications since January and is studying a further 600 requests. Offers of assistance made by the department since January total £180m, nearly three times last year's figure. Page 15

Skytrain challenge: British Airways has asked the Civil Aviation Authority to revoke Laker Airways' North Atlantic Skytrain licence because of the state of the industry 2

Rebuke for whip: Mr Walter Johnson, an assistant whip who criticized the Government's decision to approve big salary increases, is to be rebuked by Mr Wilson, 10, Downing Street confirmed yesterday 3

Brussels: African, Caribbean and Pacific countries show solidarity in negotiating trade and aid agreements with EEC 4

Bethlehem: Holy Land waits apprehensively for harsh, bitter Christmas marked by gloom, fear and austerity 5

Spying accusations: President Ford has ordered Dr Kissinger to report on allegations of mass illegal spying by the CIA 5

Petrol prices: The Department of Energy has made no moves towards reintroducing price controls on petrol even though many garages have ignored Government pleas to hold increases down to 10p a gallon 15

Leader page, 11
Letters: On editors and the closed shop, from Mr Michael Foot; Increases in top salaries, from Mr Ian Gow, MP; British Rail art purchases, from Mr J. E. Humphrey and Mr W. Leggatt Robinson.
Leading articles: Christmas; The security conference.
Sport, pages 12 and 14
Cricket: John Woodcock looks at England's chances of showing improved form in the all-important third Test match on Boxing Day; Rugby Union: Cotton appointed England captain; Football: Boxing Day preview.
Arts, page 7
Paul Overy on children's toys in art; William Mann on Rostropovich at Snape; Anthony Holden on Elton John.
Features, pages 9 and 10
Bernard Levin's post Christmas wish: Perhaps we can build a snowman tomorrow; George Hutchinson: Thirty years on with the Grand Old Man.
Diary: Christmas quiz based on information appearing in the Diary during the past year.
Obituary, page 12
Sir Alison Macadam; Ava Viscountess Waveley Sir Harry Vernon.
Business News, pages 15-19
Stock market: Gold shares strengthened on further rises in bullion prices, but industrial shares went inactive. The FT index fell 2.7 to 360.8.
Features: "Babes in the Wood or Great Britain on Ice"—a financial pantomime.

Home News	2, 3	Court	12	Obituary	12	Theatres, etc	7
European News	4	Crossword	20	Science	12	25 Years Ago	12
Overseas News	4, 5	Diary	10	Services	12	Universities	12
Appointments	12	Engagements	12	Snow Report	12	Weather	2
Arts	7	Features	9, 10	Sport	13, 14	Wills	12
Business	15-19	Letters	11	TV & Radio	8		

Humphrey aide indicted over cash gift

New York, Dec 23.—Mr Jack Chestnut, Senator Hubert Humphrey's Senate campaign manager in 1978, was indicted today on a federal charge of handling an unlawful $12,000 (£5,200) campaign contribution from milk producers.

A federal grand jury indictment alleged that Mr Chestnut caused an advertising agency to receive a contribution from Associated Milk Producers Inc.

The producers' group allegedly arranged to pay for one month's services to the Humphrey campaign by Lennen and Newell Inc, an advertising agency, in violation of federal campaign laws, the indictment said.—AP.

Onassis reward for son's crash

Athens, Dec 23.—Mr Aristotle Onassis, the millionaire shipowner, today offered a reward of £220,000 for conclusive confirmation of suspicions that the air crash in which his son Alexander was killed was due to sabotage.

The offer was made in a paid advertisement sent to the Greek press tonight. Mr Onassis said Greek and foreign experts were suspicious that the air accident on January 22, 1973, which cost his son's life, had been the result of "deliberate action" rather than negligence as the official inquiry indicated.

Mr Alexander Onassis was killed when his father's private aircraft, which he was piloting, crashed on takeoff from Athens airport. Alexander, aged 22, was giving a proficiency test to a new American pilot he proposed to hire.

Cuba visit

Havana, Dec 23.—Mr Olof Palme, the Swedish Prime Minister, will pay an official visit to Cuba next June. He will be the first West European government leader to visit the island since the revolution.—Reuter.

HOME NEWS

Farm men may call strikes and try to halt food deliveries

By Raymond Perman
Labour Staff

Farmworkers' leaders may call for a campaign of selective strikes to win local pay improvements after yesterday's decision by the Agricultural Wages Board not to meet the demand for a £35 minimum weekly wage.

The board, increasing its previous offer of £27.80 minimum plus a threshold agreement, offered £28.50 from January 20, rising to £30.50 in July, but the rate was approved only on the vote of the five independent members. In an unprecedented move, both the National Farmers' Union, representing employers, and the National Union of Agricultural and Allied Workers abstained.

The farm workers' union executive later described the award as inadequate. Mr Reginald Bottini, general secretary, said that a national strike had not been considered. "One must recognize that the board has made a legally enforceable order.

"We are asking our county and district committees to hold emergency meetings to consider executive-supported industrial action to secure local agreements with the larger farms and estates", he said. Local committees will meet by January 29 and the executive will consider their comments the next day.

The farmworkers' union, he added, felt that the board had not gone nearly far enough to establish a proper rate. If a £30.50 minimum was justified in July, it was justified from January. He added: "This will do little to close the earnings gap of about £14 between farm and industrial workers."

Feelings over the wage award have been running high. Militant farmworkers from Kent protested outside the meeting yesterday, calling for a strike if the demands were not met.

The move to seek local topping-up of the national rate will be a fresh departure for the agricultural workers, who have previously relied on the board to raise earnings. But recently they have become disillusioned and they walked out of a previous board meeting in protest at what they saw as little more than a rubber-stamping of the farmers' offer.

Mr John Davies, chairman of the NFU employment committee, said the board had on no new evidence merely rearranged its previous proposals. The cost to the industry would remain the same, at about £58m a year, but craftsmen on farms would lose so that labourers' rates could be increased.

He added: "Independent members felt they could not accept threshold payments as being the right method in the present political climate for settling wage disputes. It was a political decision rather than an economic one."

Wife faces another charge at Guildford

Thirteen people were further remanded by Guildford magistrates yesterday in connexion with bomb attacks on public houses at Guildford and Woolwich. One, Mrs Anne Maguire, already charged with murder, was further charged with possessing explosive for unlawful purposes.

All 13 were remanded in custody for seven days.

Two were charged with the murder of Gunner Richard Dunne, aged 42, in the Woolwich attack, and the murder of a WRAC recruit, Miss Caroline Slater, aged 18, at Guildford.

They are: Paul Hill, aged 20, of Burnsley Crescent, Belfast; and Patrick Armstrong, aged 24, of Algernon Road, Kilburn, London.

Six were charged with the Guildford murder. They are: Mrs Anne Maguire, aged 39, of Third Avenue, Paddington, London; John Joseph McGuinness, aged 20, of Rondu Road, Cricklewood, London; Brian Anderson, aged 22, also of Rondu Road; Paul Joseph Coleman, aged 18, of Algernon Road, Kilburn; Gerard Patrick Conlon, aged 20, of Cyprus Street, Belfast; and Carole Richardson, aged 17, of Earls Court Square, London.

Four others were charged with possessing nitroglycerine in the Greater London area for unlawful purposes. They are: Mrs Maguire's husband, Patrick, aged 41; William Smyth, aged 36, Patrick O'Neill, aged 34, and Patrick Conlon, aged 51, all of Third Avenue, Paddington. Mrs Maguire also faces this charge.

Patrick Conlon was said to be too ill to attend court and was remanded in his absence.

One was charged with conspiring to cause explosions in the Greater London area. He is John Joseph Mullin, aged 22, of Rondu Road, Cricklewood.

Reporting restrictions were not lifted during the hearing, which was held in strict security. This is the first time that the addresses of the defendants have been disclosed.

O come, all ye faithful .... Worcester Cathedral choir exhorting Christians at a carol service

Christmas in prison for football supporter

A football supporter w kicked out with a steel capped boot at another spec tor during the Chelsea ma against West Ham on Satur will spend Christmas in Pent ville prison.

Brian Marks, aged 22, electrician's mate, of Stephen's Road, East Ham, remanded in custody yeste until December 30 by W London Magistrates' Court that he can be legally re sented. He pleaded guilty charge under the Public O Act of using threatening b viour at Stamford Bridge ball ground.

Police Constable A Wareham said Chelsea scored and rival suppo were about to fight. "F were thrown and I went the crowd", he said. "A leapt forward on the terra lashed out with his right capped boot and struck o the persons there."

The officer said that arrested, Mr Marks re "My mate got it, so I we to look after him".

Mr Marks told the "A crowd of blokes clob my mate and I turned to him."

Remanding him, Mrs Lowry, a magistrate "You have been dealt wi a number of occasions wi utmost leniency. The tim come when leniency ended."

Two Chelsea football porters who were said to chased a rival supporter a platform at Fulham way station were each £50 by the court after pl guilty to using threa behaviour. A man, ag was fined £35 for a offence and magistrates adjoining room imposed fine on a man, aged 2 also admitted using th ing behaviour at the matc

Talks on national papers dispute adjourned

By our Labour Staff

Talks aimed at resolving the dispute between the National Graphical Association and the proprietors of national newspapers were adjourned yesterday for at least a week.

Mr Joseph Wade, assistant general secretary of the NGA, said: "We have made no significant progress over the past few days and my negotiating committee feel that they have got to take further briefing from the executive."

The talks started last Wednesday at the offices of the Conciliation and Arbitration Service. Mr Wade added that the union had been asked by Mr James Mortimer, chairman of the CAS, not to reimpose industrial action while the talks were adjourned, and it was likely that they would agree.

Mr John LePage, labour secretary of the Newspaper Publishers Association, said: "Endeavours to obtain a joint statement on procedure relating to the new agreement were adjourned pending a report back by the NGA negotiating committee to their executive council."

The dispute is over a 6¾ per cent pay offer, which has been accepted by five other unions in the industry. The production of nearly all national newspapers was disrupted by action by NGA members in the early part of last week, but the campaign was suspended on Thursday so that talks could reopen.

The NGA argues that by accepting the NPA offer it would lose some of the differential its members have over other printing workers.

Dartmoor carols cancelled

Plans for a carol concert inside Dartmoor prison yesterday were cancelled after a dispute involving prison officers.

Other Christmas activities inside the jail, which include the screening of two films, *The Ten Commandments* and *The Great Train Robbery*, are not expected to be affected.

Miners seek union overtime limit

Yorkshire miners are seeking guidance from their union's national executive on the amount of overtime they should work. Mr Arthur Scargill, president of the Yorkshire area of the National Union of Mineworkers, said yesterday that an executive recommendation that branches should determine their own amount of overtime was not acceptable.

"We feel the national executive should be more specific in respect of what they mean by a limit on the amount of overtime worked", he said.

Overtime had gone up from 8 per cent to 17.5 per cent since March, he said. Yorkshire miners were not calling for the banning of overtime, but were asking for a national policy, "not some wishy-washy ideas, but specific guidelines".

A threat of industrial action by the Yorkshire miners over smokeless fuel allowances for retired miners and widows was lifted yesterday.

He said that if there was no satisfactory outcome, a resolution from Woolley colliery for industrial action would be resubmitted and supported.

British Airways asks for Laker Skytrain licence to be revoked

By Arthur Reed
Air Correspondent

British Airways has asked the Civil Aviation Authority to revoke the licence the authority gave the independent Laker Airways two years ago to operate the walk-on Skytrain cheap fare service across the North Atlantic.

Announcing that last night, Mr David Nicolson, chairman of British Airways, justified the state corporation's decision by the fact that circumstances in the world air transport industry had changed greatly since the CAA first granted the Skytrain licence in September, 1972.

The volume of traffic had been falling, operating costs had risen, low-fare traffic was now provided for in other ways, and the Skytrain operation would "dump 250,000 seats on to a route where they are not needed".

British Airways sent a formal notification of its action to Mr Freddie Laker, chairman and owner of Laker Airways, who commented later: "I am confident that I shall be starting my new service in April."

Mr Laker first applied for the Skytrain licence with proposed fares of £32.50 single in the winter months between London and New York and £37.50 in summer. As a result of inflation, his latest proposed fares are £52 and £59 respectively.

Mr Nicolson pointed out yesterday that advance booking charter (ABC) fares now being operated by British Airways and the big American airlines across the North Atlantic cost £99 return in winter, £109 return in the spring and autumn, and £136 in summer, so that they are cheaper than Skytrain except in the peak travel period.

But whereas passengers would, under Mr Laker's scheme, be able to book on the day of travel by going to the airport, it is necessary to make a reservation at least two months ahead of the departure date under the ABC scheme.

The main worry of British Airways is plainly that if Skytrain receives permission from the United States Government to start it would cream off many passengers on a route where, this year, there were 7,500,000 empty seats, or the equivalent of 30 empty jumbo jets flying in each direction each day.

A second important consideration is that British Airways wishes to record its attitude before the inquiry into the future of British civil aviation recently established by Mr Shore, Secretary of State for Trade, begins its work. Mr Nicolson made clear last night that it was likely that the airline would also ask for the revocation, at some time, of the North Atlantic licence held by the other big independent airline, British Caledonian.

Mr Nicolson said: "The critical situation now facing world air transport reinforces our view that if the British flag carrier is to remain strong we ought not to be expected to operate under the handicap of competing on the North Atlantic with other British airlines, as well as foreign ones."

Mr Laker said: "I welcome the BA application, because I am looking for a reconfirmation of the Skytrain licence. This Government and the Americans have sat on it for two years doing nothing."

MP in hospital

Mr J. P. W. Ma Labour MP for Hudde East, has entered the N Orthopaedic Centre, for treatment for spinal and has cancelled a engagements.

Duke on television

The Duke of Edinbur appear in a special ed the BBC television Nat programme on New Ye to mark the start of E Archive

World food stocks are at their lowest since the end of the war. Inevitably, the poor nations have ended up at the end of the queue. And people like Abdul Latif and his little brother in Bangladesh could simply starve.

Oxfam is now fighting hard to meet calls for emergency food. We desperately need your help.

But surely this crisis must also make us all question our own waste of scarce food resources, and above all make us now determined to help the other half of the human family increase their food production for the future.

For Oxfam to continue to help poor communities improve their own farming methods, we need to be able to plan ahead on the basis of a regular income.

Even if you can spare only ½% or 1% of your income (1% is £1 a month if you earn £1,200 a year), it can make a world of difference in a hungry corner of the world.

For today's emergency please send whatever you can. Quickly. Just £5 will buy a sack of wheat. If you would like to contribute to constructive development on a regular basis, please fill in the Banker's Order form below. You'll never give a better Christmas present.

Feed all the family

This form is simply an instruction to your bank to pay regularly whatever sum you choose to Oxfam's work. You can of course cancel it at any time by contacting your bank.

To: The Manager Date _____ 19__
Bank Name _____
Bank Address _____

Please pay to the account of OXFAM (Incorporated), Barclays Bank, High Street, Oxford, (20-05-31, Account 60546784) the sum of _____ pounds (£ _____) on the _____ day of _____ 19__ and every month/quarter/year* on the same day until further notice.

Name (Block letters please) _____
Address _____
Signature _____
* Please ... When completed this form sh... OXFA...

هكذا من الأصل

'Mastermind' title won by a third woman

By Kenneth Gosling

Mrs Elizabeth Horrocks last night demonstrated once again that the female of the species has the steadier nerve when facing Magnus Magnusson's two-minute bursts of rapid-fire questions. But she thought it "just a coincidence" that BBC television's *Mastermind* title should go to a woman for the third year running.

Mrs Horrocks, who follows in the successful footsteps of Mrs Nancy Wilkinson, the 1972 winner, and Mrs Patricia Owen, last year's champion, said all three semi-finals of *Mastermind* were recorded on the same day to give all the winners an equal time to study for the final.

"I had 28 days to read again 16 books of Dorothy L. Sayers for my third subject", she said. "They were books, rather dog-eared now, that my father bought, and I went on reading them when he died. They are the ones I know and the ones I enjoy."

She was glad she had settled for Tolkien in her second round; she rattled off 18 correct answers. Had it been Shakespeare, her first specialist subject, she felt she would not have done so well.

She had a huge following in Cardiff, where she comes from, and Bristol, where she was at university. And what she calls her "wide smattering of shallow knowledge", gained mostly from listening to Radio 4, was the key to success.

Why did she enter? "I did it without telling anyone in case they said 'no'. I have listened to previous quizzes, and people do not seem to be able to apply their knowledge correctly", she said.

Mrs Elizabeth Horrocks

She likes, and always has liked, proper examination conditions, which is why the inquisition atmosphere of *Mastermind* suited her.

Although she puts down women's success in the contest to sheer coincidence, it may be, she says, that women never have to be absolutely single-minded.

The 28-year-old former teacher was able to relax completely and watch herself winning last night. Then she became absolutely single-minded and put all her knowledge of baby care towards the problem of getting her 14-month-old daughter Katherine to sleep.

Fire victims remembered at service

Hundreds of Christmas shoppers stood in silence yesterday as mourners arrived for a memorial service for the 18 pensioners who died when fire swept the Fairfield old people's home eight days ago at Edwalton, Nottinghamshire.

Anglican, Roman Catholic and Methodist leaders took part in the service at St Giles's Church, West Bridgford. One lesson was read by Mrs Alice Johnson, the assistant matron at Fairfield, and another by Mr Ernest Lester, chairman of Nottinghamshire County Council.

In his address, the Bishop of Southwell, the Right Rev Denis Wakeling, said: "In this world we cannot avoid living at risk.

Tower hotel at South Ba agreed by Mr Crosland

By Our Planning Reporter

The Government has overruled objections to a 380ft hotel at South Bank, London, close to the new National Theatre.

Mr Crosland, Secretary of State for the Environment, said yesterday that in the light of all the representations, he had decided there were not enough grounds for withholding planning permission. Resiting the hotel tower would present serious difficulties and would not be justified.

The tower would not be an isolated example of a tall building but would form one of a series on the skyline of a redeveloped South Bank, he said.

In March, 1971, Mr Denys Lasdun, the National architect, objected to consultation on the p Greater London Cou the hotel plans. Other contended that the building would d theatre and ruin any give a distinctive appe one of London's most sites.

However, the plans two years later met approval. The desig Derek Stephenson, Heron Corporation monwealth Holiday Canada, envisages a glass and aluminium higher than the nei Shell building.

Minister is to reopen oil refinery inquiry

Mr Crosland, Secretary of State for the Environment, is to reopen the inquiry into plans to build an oil refinery at Cliffe, in north Kent, it was disclosed yesterday. He gave outline permission in March for a refinery at Cliffe and a rail terminal at Higham.

Several parties asked for the inquiry, first held in 1972, to be reopened, chiefly on the ground that the developent would be much different from the original plans by Burmah-Total Refineries Trust and that other material considerations had changed.

Four accused of murder in Belfast

Four men were charged yesterday with three murders in Belfast. Two, aged 27 and 28, accused of killing Mr Joseph McDermott, aged 35, a Roman Catholic, whose body was found at the weekend, were remanded in custody until January 6.

A man aged 26 was accused of the murder of Mr Alexander Ramsey, who was killed outside a church last month. Another man, aged 21, charged with the murder of Mr Brian Shaw, found in a house in the Lower Falls district, was remanded in custody until December 31.

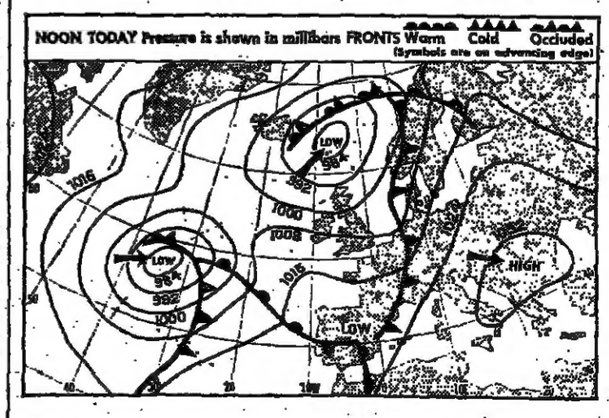
Immigrant plot trial

Six Indians, a German and a Dutchman were committed for trial in custody to Southend Crown Court or Southend yesterday, jointly charged with conspiring together and with other persons to contravene the Immigration Act, 1971.

Two of the Indians are from south London: Mehanga Singh, aged 35, a welder, of Adamston Road, Plumstead, and Raj Kumar, aged 32, a fitter, of Priolo Road, Charlton. The four other Indians, all with addresses near Delhi, are Balwinder Singh, aged 17, Kurlwinder Singh, aged 29, Sajjan Singh, aged 33, and Narander Singh, aged 19.

The other defendants are, Francicus Neijman, aged 43, a Dutchman, and Udo Fischer, aged 29, both of Bonn, West Germany.

Weather forecast and recordings



Christmas Eve

Sun rises: 8.5 am — Sun sets: 3.55 pm
Moon sets: 2.42 am — Moon rises: 12.28 pm

Full Moon: December 29.
Lighting up: 4.25 pm to 7.36 am.
High water: London Bridge: 3.51 am, 5.7m (18.6ft); 9.40 pm, 5.9m (19.2ft). Avonmouth, 1.58 am, 10.0m (32.9ft); 2.36 pm, 10.1m (33.3ft). Dover, 6.20 am, 5.5m (17.9ft); 7.8 pm, 5.4m (17.6ft). Hull, 12.53 am, 5.9m (19.3ft); 2.1 pm, 5.8m (19.0ft). Liverpool, 6.36 am, 6.7m (22.1ft); 7.1 pm, 7.0m (23.0ft).

Christmas Day

Sun rises: 8.6 am — Sun sets: 3.56 pm
Moon sets: 3.33 am — Moon rises: 12.59 pm

Full Moon: December 29.
Lighting up: 4.26 pm to 7.36 am.
High Water: London Bridge: 9.58 am, 5.8m (19.0ft); 10.41 pm, 6.1m (19.9ft). Avonmouth, 3.13 am, 10.4m (34.1ft); 3.51 pm, 10.7m (35.1ft). Dover, 7.27 am, 5.6m (18.3ft); 8.10 pm, 5.6m (18.3ft). Hull, 2.11 am, 5.9m (19.5ft); 3.3 pm, 6.1m (20.0ft). Liverpool, 7.42 am, 7.0m (23.1ft); 8.5 pm, 7.3m (23.9ft).

Boxing Day

Sun rises: 8.6 am — Moon sets: 5.5 am

Full Moon: Decemb
Lighting up: 4.27 pm
High water: London am, 6.1m (20.0ft); 1 (21.0ft). Avonmouth 11.1m (36.4ft); 4.5 (37.5ft). Dover. 8. (19.0ft); 9.4 pm, Hull, 3.18 am, 6.2m pm, 6.4m (21.1ft). 1 am, 7.5m (24.6ft); (25.3ft).

An unstable SW to W airstream will cover the British Isles.

Area forecasts:

London, SE, central S, E, SW, central N England, East Anglia: Midlands, Channel Islands, S Wales: Sunny periods, scattered showers; wind SW, fresh or strong; max temp 8°C (46°F).

N Wales, NW, NE England, Lake District, Isle of Man: Frequent showers, bright intervals; wind SW to W, gale; max temp 8°C (46°F).

Borders, Edinburgh, E, SW, NW Scotland, Aberdeen, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Moray Firth, Caithness, Argyll, N Ireland: Fairly frequent squally showers, probably snow over high ground, some bright intervals; wind SW to W, gale or severe gale; max temp 8°C (46°F).

Orkney, Shetland: Frequent squally showers. so tervals. Wind SW, gale: max temp 6

Outlook for Chris Boxing Day: Sunny districts, showers rain chiefly in the W near normal.

Yesterday

London: Temp: 6 pm, 12°C (55°F); 6 am, 11°C (52°F) pm, 76 per cent. 6 pm, 0.01in. Sun. 5.3 hr. Bar, mean 1,009.8 millibars. 1,000 millibars

WEATHER REPORTS YESTERDAY MIDDAY: c, cloud; d, drizzle; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

		C	F			C	F			C	F			C	F
Algiers	s	18	64	Cologne	s	10	50	Lisbon	r	24	87	Nice	s	12	54
Amsterdm	s	10	50	Copenhgn	c	7	45	Locarno	s	4	39	Oslo	f	0	32
Athens	f	14	57	Dublin	r	10	50	London	s	12	54	Paris	s	11	52
Barcelona	f	11	52	Edinburgh	c	13	55	Luxembrg	s	7	45	Reykjavik	f	-3	27
Beirut	s	15	59	Florence	f	11	52	Madrid	c	-1	30	Rome	s	13	55
Belfast	d	10	50	Funchal	c	19	66	Majorca	s	17	63	Ronaldswy	c	11	52
Berlin	c	10	50	Geneva	fog	-1	30	Malaga	f	16	61	Stockholm	s	6	43
Biarritz	f	8	46	Gibraltar	f	17	63	Malta	f	19	66	Tel Aviv	s	17	63
Birmingham	c	12	54	Guernsey	f	9	48	Manchestr	f	13	55	Venice	c	4	39
Bristol	f	12	54	Helsinki	c	5	41	Moscow	c	1	34	Vienna	s	5	41
Brussels	s	12	54	Innsbruck	s	2	36	Munich	s	3	37	Warsaw	c	8	46
Budapest	fog	-1	30	Jersey	c	9	48	Naples	s	11	52	Zurich	fog	-2	28
Cardiff	f	11	52	L Palmas	f	20	68	New York	c	6	43				

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هكذا من الأصل

Taxes should pay for firemen, police and education, traders say

By Christopher Warman
Local Government Correspondent

The responsibility for all local authority expenditure on education, the fire service and the police should be transferred to central government, the Association of British Chambers of Commerce states today.

In evidence to the Layfield committee of inquiry into local government finance, the association rejects alternative methods of financing local authority spending, and favours the retention of the rating system so long as "rigorous" economies are made.

The association believes that local government reorganization has resulted in widespread extravagance, but suggests hope for economies by ending duplication in some spheres, notably planning and valuation. It recommends regular inspection of local authorities by Treasury organization and methods teams as a "competent and salutary check on wastefulness".

The association argues that the cost of services governed by national standards and over which local authorities have no effective control should be met from general taxation rather than from the rates. "We recommend on this basis that responsibility for all expenditure under the heads of education, the fire services, and the police should be transferred to the Exchequer and that grants to local authorities in respect of these services should cease". Local authorities should still have a role in respect of those services, and be used by the government as agents in their administration.

If rates were levied only to meet the cost of local services and amenities, ratepayers would have an incentive to ensure that the elected representatives authorized expenditure only on what ratepayers themselves wanted.

"We recommend, however, that the expenditure of local authorities on those services for which they would be entirely responsible under our proposals should be limited." The limit would be related to the aggregate expenditure in a base year, such as 1973, and could be raised annually by a rate not exceeding the rate of growth of the gross domestic product.

Rejecting alternative sources of local government revenue, the association says the disadvantages outweigh the advantages. Administrative difficulties would be too great for a system of local income tax, and site-value rating would raise as many difficulties as the present system.

While opposed to the running of lotteries by local authorities, the association does suggest two possible means of increasing revenue. Central government should impose a limit on the amount of subsidization from the rates for the rents of council dwellings, so that the amount available for spending on other local services is not unreasonably depressed.

The National Deaf Children's Society says that deaf children in residential schools risk becoming emotionally disturbed unless local authorities pay fares to unite them with families at weekends.

There are emotional dangers in leaving a deaf child at school for long periods because it usually needs more love and attention than a normal child, the society says.

The choir of the National Children's Home, Harpenden, warming up for "A Stocking Full of Stars" which BBC television will relay live tomorrow from the home.

Christmas gifts 'are no cure for loneliness'

By Diana Geddes

On Christmas Day thousands of old people will receive more attention than at any other time of the year, Mr David Hobman, director of Age Concern, says today. But it is a sad indictment of society if people really think loneliness can be cured by a Christmas pudding or a gift of talcum powder.

Mr Hobman was commenting on a report, published today by Age Concern, which maintains that many old people are leading miserable and pathetic lives because of lack of social contacts. The report suggests that short-term responses, such as social visiting, may be little more than a form of first-aid.

Of about a hundred old people interviewed almost half were found to have two or less "significant relationships", for example with family, friends and others who had some personal relationship with them. Only 15 per cent had more than four such relationships.

The authors of the report, Professor Roger Hadley, Professor of Social Administration at Lancaster University, and Mr Adrian Webb, research secretary of the Personal Social Services Council, point out that all the old people they interviewed had been referred to them by a voluntary agency, Task Force, and were therefore probably an atypical group.

But the isolation and loneliness felt by that very high risk group differed from that felt among old people in general only in its degree of severity, they conclude.

At present, the provision of services for isolated and lonely old people was largely piecemeal, the authors say. Local authorities provided support in some crises, but were either uninformed about the old people's further needs or had not enough staff to provide additional help.

The gaps that remained were left to voluntary agencies to fill. Most of the agencies "probably meet this demand on their services with the uneven response which characterized Task Force"

A more integrated system of care is needed, the authors say. They suggest that local authority social service departments should accept overall responsibility for the isolated and lonely, while letting voluntary services continue with their valuable informal caring work.

Loneliness. Social Isolation and Old People. Roger Hadley and Adrian Webb. Age Concern, 60 Pitcairn Road, Mitcham, Surrey. 20p.

Mr Wilson to rebuke dissenting whip

By Our Political Staff

No 10 Downing Street confirmed yesterday that the Prime Minister, before he leaves to spend Christmas Day at Chequers, will rebuke Mr Walter Johnson, an assistant whip, for adversely criticizing in public the Government's decision to approve increases in top salaries last Friday.

Mr Wilson intends to remind Mr Johnson that he hold office in the Administration and must not therefore consider himself free to dissociate himself from government policies and decisions.

Mr Johnson, who sits for Derby, South, must also expect to be reprimanded by Mr Mellish, the Government Chief Whip, who only a week ago offered his resignation to Mr Wilson after 54 Labour backbenchers had defied a three-line whip at the end of the Commons debate on defence cuts.

Mr Johnson's show of independent criticism, indeed, underlines Mr Mellish's point: one lapse of party discipline that goes unrebuked will produce other lapses.

The Labour squall over top salaries continued to build up yesterday. Mr Norman Atkinson, a former chairman of the *Tribune* group, appeared on Independent Television News's *First Report* to condemn both the government decision to accept most of the Boyle review body's recommendations and the manner in which the report and the decision were slipped out only a few minutes before Parliament dispersed for the Christmas recess.

"Sliding things through on the blind side", Mr Atkinson described the method of publication. "It is something we shall have to put right before long. All governments have done this, particularly just prior to a recess."

He added that Mr Benn, Secretary of State for Industry, was also wrong quietly to slip through some criticism of himself on giving £3.9m aid to the IPD industrial cooperative at Kirkby, Liverpool, against the judgment of his senior industrial advisers.

On increases for the top salariat, Mr Atkinson commented that the Government was now getting near to offering a thousand pounds a week for people in top positions. That was happening at a time of galloping inflation, and at a time when there was a correct tendency to start closing the gap between earnings of the top brass of industry and the manual workers.

The need was to allocate the proportions correctly so that people did not have a sense of injustice. Society would be distorted if the country paid £1,000 a week to people at the top and £1,000 a year to people at the bottom.

Nevertheless, the Labour Party, and left-wingers like himself, had to come to grips with the fact that certain people, including hospital consultants and miners as examples, had to be paid a lot more than others. If the country was losing some of its best doctors, "then we have to be prepared to pay over the odds —much more than some chairmen of the nationalized boards, for instance".

But Mr Atkinson defended the decision, announced last Thursday, to refer MPs' pay to the Boyle review body on top salaries.

"I have mixed feelings about this", he admitted. "There is no other job in the world where a person has to buy his own typewriter ribbon. . . . If we want an MP to be full time, want him to do a decent job and improve our whole concept of democracy, then we ought to say 'here's a bob or two to pay for doing the job and doing it decently'."

Council in lash over Swansea's round

Swansea City Council decided yesterday to buy the Vetch Field, home of the city's fourth division Football League club, for £200,000. The money includes £50,000 for the ground and £150,000 in grants to the club.

The decision, backed by the Conservative and Independent councillors, was described as misuse of public funds by opponents. At the end of a stormy debate, Mr Terence Lyne Thomas, a Conservative, served formal notice that he would seek a High Court injunction to halt the purchase.

Mr Gerald Murphy, Labour leader of the council, said Swansea City Football Club was in financial difficulties. An official approach had been made by the directors to ask whether the council could help to keep football alive in the city.

"We are very concerned that the prestige of the city football club should be maintained", he said. "If we lose this stadium, we shall lose all sorts of international matches."

BBC head's warning of threat to services

By a Staff Reporter

If there is a significant difference between the licence fee the BBC needs and what it eventually gets, the changes in services that would follow would represent a reversal of decisions deliberately taken by governments over the years about the development of BBC broadcasting.

That warning is given by the BBC's director-general, Sir Charles Curran, in a Christmas message to the staff newspaper, *Ariel*.

"I believe", he writes, "that the proper financial decisions will be taken by the Government, even if their precise nature means that we shall have to offer less to the public than we should have hoped."

Sir Charles also answers criticisms made about BBC spending. Out of 56,000 artists employed in any one year, 97 per cent earn less than £2,000 a year; some said that was too little, and Sir Charles says he would be inclined to agree if that was their only source of income. "Certainly the evidence is not of lavish disbursement of public money."

It was right, if the nation was in economic stress, for the BBC to take its share, and the recent cuts in services were a demonstration of that point. "We never stop looking for savings through efficiency. But we do not intend to sacrifice quality. It would be a poor argument to ask the public to pay more for a poorer product, and for less of it."

What was being criticized was their capacity to offer real choice, and he did not think those critics needed to be taken too seriously.

Sir Charles denied a recent report that the BBC had hired an RAF airfield "at great expense" as a set to put the name of Shirley Bassey, the singer, in lights. "What we actually paid for that was £25 to the RAF Benevolent Fund", he said.

Programme cuts: Cuts in late night and afternoon television programmes, brought about by the BBC's financial crisis, will begin on Sunday, January 5.

Both BBC1 and BBC2 will be off the air by about 11.30 pm from Sunday to Thursday. It is hoped to save £1m by pruning 15 to 20 hours a week off television programmes. It is not known how long the early close-down on television will last.

Lone union voice defends top salary increases

By Our Labour Staff

A lone voice from the trade union movement yesterday spoke out in defence of the Government's decision to increase the salaries of top civil servants, judges and service chiefs. Comment so far from left-wing Labour MPs and union leaders has been hostile.

Mr John Lyons, general secretary of the Electrical Power Engineers Association, said: "Someone should explain to the Government's left-wing critics that there is such a thing as a rate for the job and that top public servants have had their real incomes progressively reduced for years."

Mr Lyons, who leads 32,000 of the most highly skilled and highly paid men in the power industry, added that the Government's decision continued that process. "The effect is steadily to reduce real rewards for managers, scientists and engineers in the public service whose contribution to the efficient performance and continued developments of public sector services and industries is absolutely essential."

Hospitals may start next week to defer patients

Letters postponing many of next week's outpatient appointments for hospitals in the North-west are likely to be sent out this week as the hospital consultants' work-to-contract starts to make itself felt. Sixty representatives of 700 consultants in the North-west have decided to advance the British Medical Association's starting date of January 2 for their work-to-rule over the Government's new contract proposals.

Dr Derek Teasdale, chairman of the north-west region of the central committee for hospital medical services, said yesterday that he expected many consultants in the area to start working to contract from today. Part-time consultants and whole-timers, who the Government hoped would be tempted by the contract, unanimously rejected it.

Dr Teasdale, who works at Rochdale Infirmary, said the work-to-contract would be effective most in outpatient departments. "In most of the surgical specialities patients here are waiting six to eight weeks to be seen by a consultant for diagnosis or treatment", he said. But we shall have to do something to greatly reduce our crowded clinics and people will be waiting three to six months to see a consultant. We are very conscious that we are going to damage the public, but we do not want to endanger life.

"We are building in safeguards to make sure that life-threatening conditions such as cancer are seen much earlier than non-urgent cases."

Mr John Clegg, a consultant surgeon at Leighton Hospital, Crewe, where consultants have been working to rule for a fortnight, said yesterday that the number of patients seen in outpatient clinics, and operations have been cut by almost half. Patients originally were waiting about a month to be seen as outpatients by consultants, he said. Already that was up to eight or nine weeks. "It's a slow take-off for the first three or four weeks", he said, "then it becomes really critical."

Waiting lists of 14 or 15 weeks for non-urgent surgery likely to rise rapidly. "The hospital service will be run as an emergency service rather than for dealing with non-urgent complaints", Mr Clegg said.

Union warning: The National Union of Public Employees, which has 200,000 members in the hospital service, will take positive measures to minimize the effect of the consultants' work to rule, Mr Alan Fisher, general secretary, said.

In a letter to members he said the consultants' action was directly related to the Government's decision to phase out private patients, a decision fully supported by the union.

The consultants appeared to be determined to use their contracts dispute to obstruct the Government's policy to end private practice.

Police praise victim who tricked thieves

When a toolbox was taken from his car a college lecturer, Mr Clive Davies, advertised in a shop window for a toolbox. He made a citizen's arrest when two men offered to sell him the box stolen from his car.

At Exeter magistrates' court yesterday Peter Barry Thorpe, aged 27, a roof tiler, of Laburnam Road, Exeter, and his nephew, Brian Ivor Thorpe, aged 19, a laboratory assistant, of Burnthouse Lane, Exeter, pleaded guilty to stealing a metal toolbox and tools belonging to Mr Davies, of Earl Richards Road, Exeter.

Both were fined £40 after admitting another toolbox theft.

Later yesterday Det Chief Supt Proven Sharpe, head of Devon and Cornwall CID, said: "This was smart detective work, just the kind of cooperation we are seeking."

Outside the court Mr Davies said he used his former address after advertising. "Two young men came in carrying my toolbox. I said: 'These are stolen goods and I am going to arrest you under the Citizen's Arrest Act. I am going to telephone for a police car'.

"Later the police told me they had never heard of an arrest like this and at the police station they jokingly referred to me as Det Constable Davies."

Lord Moyle of Llanidloes dies aged 80

Lord Moyle, of Llanidloes, died at his home yesterday. He was aged 80. As Mr Arthur Moyle, he was Labour MP for Stourbridge from 1945 to 1950 and represented Oldbury and Halesowen from 1950 to 1964. He was Parliamentary Private Secretary to Lord Attlee when he was Prime Minister and later Leader of the Opposition from 1946 to 1955. Lord Moyle was created a life peer in 1966.

He piloted three private members Bills through Westminster, on fireworks, slaughtering and children in divorces.

Striker fined for throwing stone

John Ellis, aged 56, a strike picket, who threw a stone at a lorry that got through a picket line, was fined £25 at Hull Magistrates' Court yesterday for threatening behaviour.

Mr Ellis told the court: "It was frustration.

Drive against mastitis

After three years of local surveys the Milk Marketing Board has launched a large-scale campaign against mastitis, a bacterial infection that may reduce the milk output of a cow by a tenth.

ation energy d food, shop says

The Bishop of London, Dr Gerald Ellison, declared yesterday that essential food and the prices and use of energy should be rationed.

In his Christmas letter to his diocese, he said: "If we are at war with inflation, then we should recognizably be on a war footing and accept the sacrifices which that entails".

"Food subsidies were not the right way to keep down food prices, since the nation was subsidizing rich and poor alike," he said. Petrol price increases would make no difference to the rich and would fall hardest on professional people, like the clergy, who need their cars for their work, and who will have to pay these new very high prices.

"Surely the reasonable solution is to introduce rationing of essential food stuffs and the prices and use of energy.

op birth rate is in low-population area

By Staff Reporter

Northern Ireland had the highest birth rate in the United Kingdom last year, yet the lowest rates for marriage and illegitimacy. The North-west of England topped the illegitimate tables with one baby in every ten born out of wedlock.

The Scots, producers of some of our best beef, eat about 20 per cent less carcass meat a year than the English or Welsh, but make up by eating more potatoes and bread. They also eat less fresh fruit and less than half the fresh green vegetables eaten by the English and Welsh.

These are some of the facts in the *Abstract of Regional Statistics*, 1974, for the regional areas in the United Kingdom, published by the Central Statistical Office.

The regions continued to show the decline in their birth rates this year, as they have for the last decade. Northern Ireland alone had 18.9 live births in proportion to population, compared with 14.6 for the United Kingdom as a whole. It also had one of the highest death rates, giving it the lowest population growth, with a natural increase of 7.5 in 1000, compared with 2.0 for the country as a whole.

But Northern Ireland is still the second most sparsely-populated of the regions, with 110 people a square kilometre. The North-west area, including Lancashire, Merseyside, Cheshire and Manchester, is the most densely populated, with 845 people a sq km, followed by the South-east, with 632 people. Scotland has the most living space, with only 66 people per sq km.

East Anglia has the lowest average gross weekly earnings outside Northern Ireland, £38.50 compared with £45.10 in the South-east, the highest. Yet East Anglians have the most cars, 66 per cent of all households owning at least one car, compared with 54 per cent in the United Kingdom as a whole, and only 42 per cent in the North.

Housing in Northern Ireland, although by no means the best, is the cheapest in the country. The average home mortgaged through a building society in 1973 was £6,181, less than half the £13,478 average cost in the South-east. A Northern Ireland household spends only 8 per cent of its total weekly budget on housing, compared with the 15 per cent spent by a household in the South-east.

Only one home in four in Northern Ireland has a telephone; the same as in Wales. Six homes out of 10 in the South-east have telephones. Only about half Northern Ireland's homes have a refrigerator compared with four-fifths of all homes in England and more than two-thirds in Scotland and Wales.

Central heating is found less in the colder regions of the North than in the more affluent South. About 44 per cent of homes in the South-east, South-west and East Anglia have full or partial central heating, compared with 34 per cent in Scotland, 27 per cent in Wales and 24 per cent in Northern Ireland.

The South-east has the highest proportion of owner-occupied houses, 60 per cent of all homes, compared with 32 per cent in Scotland and 47 per cent in Northern Ireland. More than half the homes in Scotland are owned by the local authority, compared with less than a third for the country as a whole.

Abstract of Regional Statistics, 1974. No 10 (Stationery Office, £2.70).

ADVERTISEMENT

Statement issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Iraq

The Government of the Republic of Iraq have revealed, on several occasions, the acts of aggression engaged in by the Government of Iran against Iraq, and the numerous continued attempts, on the part of that Government, against the sovereignty of Iraq over all its territories, after the unilateral abrogation by Iran of the Shatt Al-Arab 1937 agreement.

It has been noticed that such acts of aggression against the borders of Iraq tended to increase and become wider in scope whenever the Government of Iraq achieved further successes in their efforts to implement the Autonomy Law in the northern region of the country and bring about the final suppression of the outlaw hireling faction.

On all such occasions, the Iraqi Government made it clear that interference by the Government of Iran in Iraq's internal affairs and aggression by that Government against Iraq's borders are in reality acts of aggression and interference committed by American colonialism, that is to say that such acts, in the last analysis, are but part and parcel of the overall activity engaged in by the United States of America throughout the area for the achievement of the objectives of its well-known policy of aggression.

However, the situation has now developed into a new phase through widening the scope of military interference and the use of new types of sophisticated weapons by the Government of Iran, which have resulted in the incidents referred to by the communiqué issued by the Iraqi General Staff on the 16th of this month.

The above incidents have escalated the interference in Iraq's internal affairs and the aggression against its territories, population and armed forces to a new level which cannot be allowed to pass unheeded.

The interference by the Government of Iran, with the support of the United States of America, in the internal affairs of Iraq constitutes a complete example of the breaking of international law, the United Nation's Charter and disregard of the basic principles of international relations which are based on respect for the sovereignty of states and non-interference in their internal affairs.

Such a situation cannot but lead to upheaval in international relations, constitute a threat to peace and create conditions that are conducive to armed conflicts.

The situation arising from the above interference on its new level cannot be considered but grave, and deserving the full attention of the world community.

The Iraqi Government, who have always sought to solve difficulties with the Government of Iran through negotiations must make it clear to all concerned that the new situation cannot be overlooked and that the Iraqi Government will stand firm to protect national sovereignty and repulse aggression against the country.

In declaring this, the Iraqi Government turn to the peoples and governments of the Arab Homeland, pointing out that the acts engaged in by the Government of Iran with the support of the United States of America are linked with the overall hostile activity of colonialism in the Arab World, and that, as such, those activities call for watchfulness and caution.

The Iraqi Government also urges the world community to watch this grave critical situation and keep in mind the collective responsibility for safeguarding peace and security in the world.

The Government of Iran and those standing behind them will bear in the end the responsibility of the consequences which will ensue from this grave situation.

December 17th, 1974

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WEST EUROPE AND OVERSEAS

The Pope takes risk in carrying on Holy Year tradition

From Peter Nichols
Rome, Dec 23

Shortly before midnight tomorrow night the Pope will symbolically strike the holy door of St Peter's three times with a golden hammer under the brilliant light of television arc lamps. He will do so not only to open the door itself but also to open the twenty-fifth Holy Year of the Catholic church.

The Pope's action will signal a great gamble.

Holy Years are inclined to arouse many kinds of doubts. The first Holy Year was probably the most impressive. In 1300 the energetic and highly ambitious Boniface instituted what was to become a regular element in Catholic life very remotely based (if indeed at all, more than in name) on Mosaic tradition.

Boniface has been described as "eager for glory" and a majestic, imposing and—one could fairly say—pretentious aspect has remained as part of subsequent Holy Years.

This is one reason why there has been criticism of Pope Paul's decision to carry on the tradition in much the same way as in the past.

There has also been reason to suspect that the Pope himself had *doubts at one time* about the wisdom of continuing a custom so vulnerable to attack by modern-minded Christians.

Those who wish the Holy Year well are, in effect, wishing Pope Paul an imposing and successful crowning of his reign. A failure would be extremely painful for him, and a success would help him over the periods of pessimism which frequently afflict him.

He is not the first Pope to call a Holy Year, with its great influx of pilgrims, when the Eternal City was in no fit shape to receive them. But no pope will have placed so huge a strain on an already sorely tried city.

Rome has vast problems with housing, traffic, health and public transport as well as a thriving criminal life, inflation and a municipality loaded with debts.

No one appears to know how many pilgrims can be expected; estimates vary from three to eight million. An indication of the strain they will place on Rome's already overburdened streets is the estimate that on days expected to attract the biggest number of pilgrims there will be 1,000 additional tourist coaches and 15,000 more motor cars than usual.

Conservationists say the city will not have enough water, that it will suffer increased pollution of the atmosphere, and cause a dangerous sewage problem because of the lack of cleansing plants.

They say the city's authorities have not heeded the Pope's own plea that Holy Year should be marked by the disapperance of the shanty-towns and other forms of improvised housing in which up to 100,000 people are said to live.

Criticism is also heard of the Vatican's decision to use every means available to the Church to bring the greatest number of faithful to Rome. "When the Church is fully mobilized", one leading Rome personality said, "there is always trouble".

This comment simply expressed the attitude of the less *uncritically zealous among practising* Catholics who would have preferred to see the decision to come, and the means chosen to come, left to individuals without the mass element inevitably brought by official pilgrimages.

The organizers of this Holy Year, understandably, want to see a mass demonstration of loyalty, whatever the condition of the city, at a time when the Church is in serious difficulties.

Another of their aims could well be seen as preparing pilgrims for a return not so much to the origins of the faith (which are not in Rome) but to the *origins of authority*.

The Pope himself regularly insists on his authority as Peter's successor which he sees in no way as having been diminished by the somewhat timid efforts made in the last decade, since the closing of the Second Vatican Council, to involve the bishops of the world more closely in the government of the Church and to allow a degree of decentralization.

So long as the city itself survives the strain the success of this Holy Year will depend on what the Pope himself manages to make of it. He will have a captive audience of enthusiastic faithful, but however predisposed they may be to enthusiasm, even they will want to see some justification for this huge effort on the part of the Church throughout the world. It will not be an easy event to judge.

Historically, Holy Years have their distasteful touches: old Roman songs tell of the swindling of poor pilgrims, judging it to be a well-deserved fate. Profiteering has been a familiar side of the occasions and the Church itself has, from time to time, made no secret of the commercial advantage involved.

To be fair, however, the only conclusion so far to be drawn is that the Holy Year must be judged as it unfolds, without prejudice, but at the same time without brilliant expectations.

It could serve to prove to the world that there is a renewed interest in organized religion.

But it might also show that the time is not right for a mass return to traditional behaviour and that the Pope might have done better to think beyond tradition in assessing modern needs.

Leading article, page 11

The Pope greeting prelates in the Vatican yesterday.

Peace plea for Middle East and Ireland

From Our Correspondent
Rome, Dec 23

The Pope today sent his hope for peace to Ireland, the Middl East, Vietnam and other area of conflict in the world.

In an address to cardinals wh presented him with their Chris mas geetings, he said: "Ho much we desire that Jerusalen instead of being the object c continuing strife, may becom the crossroads of a fraternal e counter for all those wh believe in one God, and th symbol of peace for the peopl of the Holy Land and for all th peoples of the Middle East.

"To this generous and to mented region and to all th *other parts of the world*, whe —as in Ireland, which is alwa most dear to us and present i our thoughts—conflicts a violence continue to disturb civ harmonious living, we send o greeting of peace—a just peac peace that formulates an ev more deeply-felt commitment this year of spiritual renew and reconciliation that is abo to begin."

The Pope hoped that a un fied church could make a co tribution to peace during Ho Year. "Mankind today, no le and perhaps even more than other times, has need of th *contribution* at a time when th fading remembrance of the la cruel conflict threatens soften in the world the horr of war and resolutions peace."

He went on to speak of Vie nam: "How could we not least express our anguish in th face of the difficulties that th peace continually encounte either in affirming itself those places, like Vietnar where it was hoped that pea was finally reestablished.

The Pope said that the worl was at a decisive moment. H spoke of "the senseless co *sequences of a culture flounde* ing the edge of the abyss, an of a manner of living rushin headlong into the degradatio of deliberate and blind pa sion".

M Chirac reassures Shah on gold price

From Our Correspondent
Teheran, Dec 23

M Chirac, the French Prime Minister, said tonight that reports about a change in the price of gold which had circulated after the talks between President Ford and President Giscard d'Estaing in Martinique last weekend, were completely baseless. What had been done amounted only to a "reform in the central banks' accounting system".

M Chirac, speaking before leaving Teheran at the end of a three-day visit, emphasized that neither France nor the United States wanted a revaluation of gold. The only change resulting from the Martinique decision would be in the balance sheets of the central banks.

Pressed on this point, M Chirac insisted that the Martinique decision would not reduce the purchasing power of the oil-producing countries. He had explained the situation to the Shah during his audience yesterday and "I think his majesty was satisfied with the explanation".

M Chirac refused repeatedly to discuss a possible devaluation of the dollar. Oil-producing countries have said that if the dollar is devalued, they will take steps to maintain their purchasing power.

M Chirac announced that during his visit he had *signed* agreements with Iran for business amounting to $6,000m (£2,600m). One agreement is for the supply of a colour television system.

For months there has been rivalry between France and Germany to sell Iran a colour system. The Iranian decision to choose France's Secam is regarded as largely political as the two systems are very similar in technical specifications.

France will build a 39-mile underground railway in Teheran. This project is said to be the biggest urban construction contract signed *anywhere* in the past 10 years.

Iran is to buy 26 French turbo trains and a separate contract calls for the local production of Renault cars in Iran to begin within two years.

Questioned about oil prices, M Chirac said that the present prices were considered realistic by France and that was why France was reluctant to join the international energy conference proposed by the United States.

French islanders vote for independence

From Our Own Correspondent
Paris, Dec 23

France has lost the first of its autonomous overseas territories with yesterday's overwhelming vote for independence by the Comoro Islands, in the Indian Ocean. In a record turnout yesterday, 95.56 per cent of the islanders [illegible] voted to break away from France politically but to preserve some links.

The French Parliament now has six months in which to approve independence, but it faces problems. One of the islands, Mayotte, which came under French influence more than 100 years ago (long before the other three) did not really wish for independence, preferring absorption as a department of metropolitan France, like Martinique.

The second problem is the economic future of four islands situated between Madagascar and Mozambique, with 287,000 inhabitants and a standard of living reckoned to be the lowest of all France's overseas territories.

Moroni, Dec 23.—Mr Ahmed Abdallah, the Prime Minister of the Comoros, today gave a warning that it would be unrealistic to expect immediate *independence*.

Developing nations united in approach to EEC

From Roger Berthoud
Brussels, Dec 23

The remarkable cohesion of the 46 African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries negotiating a new trade and aid agreement with the EEC has not cracked at the eleventh hour.

This is the [illegible] being drawn, with relief, in Brussels from the final ministerial consultations of the ACP countries in Dakar, Senegal, at the end of last week. Any cracks in ACP solidarity might have made the task of reaching a final agreement more difficult.

Mr Babacar Ba, the Senegalese Finance Minister, and acting president of the group, has already been in touch by telephone with Dr Garret FitzGerald, the Irish Foreign Minister, to fix a date for the concluding round of negotiations with the Nine at ministerial level. Dr FitzGerald takes over the presidency of the EEC's Council of Ministers from the French on January 1.

January 13 and 14 are seen as the likeliest dates and Brussels the likely venue: Kenya's suggestion in Dakar that the meeting be held in Nairobi is considered impractical.

The long communiqué issued at the end of the Dakar meeting *shows no softening of the* ACP position on the outstan ing issues: the stabilization export receipts, financial a and sugar.

The 46 are still insisting th funds paid over by the EEC compensate for a slump export earnings from agreed lists of primary produc should not be repayable times of boom. They still insi on aid totalling 8,000m units account (about £4,000m) ov five years while the EEC en sages about 3,000m units. A on sugar they still regard t EEC's price offer as unr sonably low.

This problem is unlikely be resolved until the su producers (mainly from Commonwealth) have had th next round of discussions w the British on January 10 11 concerning a buying pr for 1975.

Community sources reiter that the offer to guarantee developing country produc the same price as paid to E producers simply guarant an index minimum price, le ing them wholly free to ne tiate a much higher price, chore which they would, seems, rather be spared.

The continuing fall in wo sugar prices is likely strengthen the hand of EEC in the final negotiations

40,000 'guest workers' lose Swiss jobs

From Our Correspondent
Geneva, Dec 23

There are many worried faces among the 150,000 "seasonal" workers who have returned to their own countries, mainly, Italy, Spain and Yugoslavia, during the past two weeks.

They are in the category of foreign worker authorized to stay in Switzerland no more than 10 months a year. After five consecutive years of this, they can become settled workers and are then allowed to bring their families.

This Christmas, 40,000 of those who have left will not come back. Their work contracts have not been renewed; they have no jobs to return to.

Egyptian leaders 'showing will for peace'

Cairo, Dec 23.—M Sauvagargues, the French Foreign Minister, left for Paris tonight at the end of a five-day official visit to Egypt.

Before leaving he told reporters that Egyptian leaders had shown him "a will for peace", but he predicted further tension in the Middle East when the United Nations peacekeeping mandate expires next year.

The leaders he had talked with had expressed a desire that war with Israel be avoided. "I am sure the Egyptian authorities want to avoid a new use of arms", he said.—UPI.

Portugal seeks to resume links with Africa

From Our Correspondent
Lisbon, Dec 23

Dr Mario Soares, the Portuguese Foreign Minister, left Lisbon today for a fortnight's goodwill tour which will include India, Somaliland, Russia, Yugoslavia and Romania.

In Somaliland he is expected to ask President Siad Barre, who is also president of the Organization of African Unity, to press the OAU to lift the embargo on its members' diplomatic relations with Portugal.

In India Dr Soares will sign economic, trade and cultural agreements. It is believed that the cultural agreement will seek to preserve Portuguese culture in the former Portuguese territories of Goa, Damao and Diu, which were annexed by India in 1961.

Lisbon, Dec 23.—The Portuguese armed forces today placed five more generals on the reserve list, including former military commanders in Portu-Guinea and Mozambique. They are affected by a law which lowers the retiring age of officers from 65 to 62.

Avalanche slop at Kitzbuhel 'not roped off'

Innsbrück, Dec 23.—Robert Braunias, head of official inquiry into Saturd avalanche disaster in K bühel, today disputed lo statements that the nine ski who died were in a zone cle marked as dangerous.

He said that many skiers *told him that the slope had* been roped off. It was mar only as for experienced ski he added.

Thirteen Austrians and W Germans were caught in avalanche and only four w pulled clear.—Reuter.

S Africans baffled by apartheid complexities

From Michael Kaipe
Cape Town, Dec 23

Race regulations have grown so complex and contradictory in South Africa that with Christmas festivities approaching their peak newspapers are publishing guides as to what forms of multi-racial mixing are allowed.

There is minimal interracial contact at a social level in the republic and few people are aware of what they may, or may not, do legally. Those who are anxious to act upon the governments' stated intention of abolishing discrimination are finding it no easy task.

It is legal, for instance, at a private party for people classified as White, Coloured or Indian, to serve alcoholic liquor to guests of any people of the same three racial groups but not to people classified as African. Only soft drinks may be served to Africans. However, an employer is entitled to supply liquor to his African employees. Farmers, for instance, provide daily tots of wine for their farm labourers in lieu of additional wages — a practice which is strongly criticized in liberal quarters.

Africans may buy alcohol from liquor stores—which are racially segregated—and they may take the liquor to a multi-racial party and serve themselves from their own supply. However, legal sources point out that in the event of a police raid it might be difficult to prove that Africans had brought their own liquor.

In special circumstances it is possible to summount the ban on serving Africans alcoholic liquor by applying for a special permit from the Department of Bantu Administration and Development.

If a party, or gathering, is not private, Coloureds and Asians may attend only if a permit is acquired from the Department of Community Development. If Africans are expected also a second permit is required from the Department of Bantu Administration and Development.

Some social events are allowed to be multi-racial—Bazaars, fêtes, cake sales, markets and jumble sales. The all-important proviso for these events is that there must be no side shows or other forms of entertainment.

Whites, Coloureds and Asians who are invited to an African's home require a permit to attend.

Although foreign blacks are given honorary white status in most five-star hotels in South Africa, there is considerable confusion over whether they may dance as well as eat and drink at such places. Special permits have to be obtained if a white wishes to entertain a black South African even to lunch or dinner and again it is no simple task.

A Johannesburg *Sunday Express* reporter who attempted to take a black South African school teacher to a hotel restaurant reported today that a special permit was required and that restaurant managers warned that after a wait of several days the permit might be refused without reason. One restaurant manager said he had found it impossible, during the festive season, to obtain permits to allow blacks to use the facilities.

Three leading hotels—the President, the Carlton and the Land-drost—each refused permission for the reporter to entertain a black South African guest without the permit.

The reporter asked the National Liquor Board how to get a permit and was told: "You must have a good reason. Friendship is not enough. If it has something to do with intellectual pursuits or a business prize award you've got a chance."

The spokesman added: "Liquor may be served but dancing is strictly forbidden." The procedure to obtain the necessary permit is that the hotel has to apply to the secretary of the Liquor Board stating in a letter the name and address of the "non-white", the reason for the occasion and the number of whites and "non-white" guests.

In addition, permission must be sought from the chief magistrate if the guest is an African or from the Department of Community Development if the guest is Indian or Coloured.

Commenting on the difficulties, Mr Punt Janson, the deputy minister of Bantu affairs, hinted that in the future is might become easier. Mr Janson has been the leading member of the Government pressing for a liberalization of discriminatory regulations. A parliamentary select committee is preparing a liquor law amendment Act for the next parliamentary session and may propose reforms to the discriminatory statutes.

Meanwhile most Christmas parties in South Africa will be whites-only affairs and the few with blacks in attendance will in all probability be taking a chance with the law.

Rome shops hit by drop in Christmas sales

From Our Own Correspondent
Rome, Dec 23

Shopkeepers in Rome worried by the sharp drop Christmas sales this year has reached about 90 per c for greeting cards and up to per cent for clothes.

Their association states as a result thousands of sh and businesses are facing "s ous and immediate "co quences.

Sales of furniture and nishings are down by 20 cent, of furs by between and 40 per cent and housel appliances are selling at at one half of last year's rate

Spain recognize political parties

Madrid, Dec 23.—A Bill ing Spaniards a limited righ political association for the f time in the 35 years of Franco regime became law day

It gives Spaniards over "the right to associate th selves freely for polit action". It attaches m strings to the right, howeve

هكذا من الأصل

OVERSEAS

Holy Land waits apprehensively for Christmas marked by gloom, fear and austerity

From Eric Marsden
Bethlehem, Dec 23

From almost every angle it looks like being a harsh, bitter Christmas in the Holy Land. The belief that another war is looming, the constant danger of terrorism, economic hardships caused by Israel's emergency measures and the continuing blight on tourism have all depressed the festive spirit.

There has also been a deterioration in everyday relations not only between Jews and Arabs but between Arab and non-Arab Christians, who are deeply divided over the fate of Monsignor Hilarion Capucci, the Greek Catholic Archbishop of Jerusalem, serving a 12-year prison sentence for aiding terrorists. The spectacle of an archbishop on hunger strike at Christmas is one which disturbs most Christians, in different ways.

Not all this turmoil shows on the surface. The Israelis, though driven near to xenophobia by the ordeals of the past year, which has seen them almost totally isolated from the world community, are maintaining their scrupulous observance of the usual courtesies. Christmas trees are being distributed free to Christians by the Jewish National Fund; Jerusalem's mayor, Mr Teddy Kollek, gave his customary joint party for religious leaders of Judaism, Islam and Christianity; and here in Bethlehem the West Bank military government has helped provide the coloured lights, piped music and closed circuit television so that the crowd in Manger Square will see the midnight mass in the Church of the Nativity.

The warning by the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), indicating that it regards Christmas pilgrims and tourists as fair game for attack, has caused widespread shock. The Vicar-General of the Anglican Church, the Rt Rev Robert Stopford (former Bishop of London) described it today as "wholly deplorable". It was, he said, utterly wrong to make tourists targets for terrorism and he was sure this was not supported by the people.

Security will be even more intensive than usual in Bethlehem and church authorities have been informed of the special measures taken by the military government to prevent infiltration. But it may be impossible to prevent isolated incidents such as that on the Jericho road on Sunday, when a tourist bus was attacked.

Troops will patrol the route of the procession led by the Latin Patriarch, Monsignor Giacomo Beltritti, from Jerusalem to the Church of the Nativity. Others will stand guard with automatic weapons on the roof of the church

Terrorist deterrence of tourism is an additional blow to the stricken innkeepers and souvenir sellers, who have been doing thin business since Easter. Several hotels in Jerusalem are closed; others have between a dozen and 30 guests and have had to lay off staff. In Bethlehem the mayor says: "This will be one of the hardest Christmases we have had."

Many Arabs profess stoically that the hardship and trouble are worthwhile if the eighth Christmas under Israel occupation proves to be the last.

In spite of anxiety over continued indiscriminate terrorism, there has been no weakening of support for the PLO in the West Bank. Arab leaders have become bolder, even defiant, in their political statements. Political protests, officially forbidden, have been made against the deportations of West Bank leaders and the Bethlehem council has publicly stated that the town rejects plans by Israel leaders seeking to absorb it within Jerusalem's jurisdiction.

The Capucci affair has generated an ugly atmosphere which bodes ill for the future. Although the archbishop was plainly guilty of gun-smuggling, no Arab leader of churchmen has criticized his actions.

Both Arabs and Israelis have blind spots concerning terror and counter-terror. Decent ordinary Arabs I have known for years refuse to show any remorse for the deliberate killing of women and children by terrorists. Israelis are equally unmoved by civilian deaths in their bombing attacks on refugee camps in Lebanon

When a delegation of church dignitaries visited the Religious Affairs Minister, Mr Yithzak Raphael, to plead for Monsignor Capucci's release, he said he was "stunned by their failure to express any regret or to condemn the archbishop's actions". So are many of the foreign, non-Arab clergy long resident in Jerusalem.

A wave of pro-Israel sympathy has been stirred, though, and today an American Episcopalian, Father Malcolm Boyd, was conducting an informal inter-denominational service at the Walling Wall in recognition of Jesus as a Jew.

The Vatican has not so far made a decision on whether to support the demand for Monsignor Capucci's release, nor has it expressed direct regrets at his offence. The affair is an acute embarrassment for the Pope on the eve of his declaration of Holy Year.

Israel shows no sign of relenting and agreeing to deport the archbishop, an action which would cause a domestic storm.

More Israelis are celebrating Christmas these days, furtively or otherwise. They include many immigrants from Britain and America, nostalgic for the Yuletide spirit they enjoyed back home. But in East Jerusalem small plastic trees are on offer at £4 each; a single bell-shaped decoration costs £2; and a rare imported plum pudding from Britain weighing 1lb 14oz is also priced at £2.

The loss of Christmas is just one part of the difficult adjustment that many immigrants face here.

Report on CIA spying ordered by Mr Ford

From Fred Emery
Washington, Dec. 23

President Ford today ordered Dr Kissinger to report to him "within a matter of days" on newspaper allegations that the Central Intelligence Agency conducted mass illegal spying in the United States during the Nixon years. The CIA is authorized only to operate abroad.

The announcement of the President's concern came from his press secretary at Vail, Colorado, where Mr Ford is on a working-skiing holiday. He said the Secretary of State was being instructed to investigate the reports in his capacity as staff director of the National Security Council, which coordinates all intelligence activity.

Mr Ford, reacting for the second day running to the disclosures in *The New York Times*, clearly hoped to head off mounting congressional demands for heads to roll. He also wished to insist on perspective, to remind Americans that newspaper reports were not necessarily facts, and to deny an Associated Press report that the Justice Department was already involved in considering prosecutions.

A Justice Department spokesman, however, insisted they had the matter "under review".

At the State Department, Dr Kissinger's spokesman had earlier denied that the Secretary of State had ever heard about the CIA's domestic spying, before the newspaper's disclosures.

Since 1969 Dr Kissinger has been assistant to the President for national security, and thus in a position to keep an eye on the CIA for President Nixon during the years when spying is alleged to have been practised against anti-war dissidents. But his spokesman was adamant today. The Secretary has never seen any reports of surveillance of American citizens by the CIA," he said.

There has ben no link suggested between the CIA spying and the dubious wiretapping of press correspondents and White House staff, conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, in which Dr Kissinger was a willing partner.

At the CIA headquarters today they were content to try to "tough it out" and say no more.

The CIA's chief spokesman agreed that the allegations by *The New York Times* had been discussed at the regular departmental meeting held this morning by Mr William Colby, the CIA director. But he discounted reports that there was anything special about the meeting.

He was content to let President Ford's statement stand. Yesterday Mr Ford said he would not tolerate such activities, and told reporters that he had Mr Colby's assurance that "nothing comparable" was still being conducted.

Elsewhere various congressmen were reacting with predictable indignation. Senator William Proxmire called for the head of Mr Richard Helms, CIA director during the offending years

Against this, Mr Ray Cline, former chief of the CIA intelligence division, was reported by the *Washington Post* as discounting the report as "a pastiche of little gossipy stories".

Mr John McCone, who preceded Mr Helms as CIA director, called for a full congressional or presidential investigation of the charges.

A Christmas footnote to the story is that the chief CIA spokesman was kneeling at prayer in his local church yesterday morning when his electronic buzzer went off loudly. He was being summoned by his office to take a telephone inquiry. It was Reuters in Washington wanting a reaction.

"Holy cats. I nearly fell through the pew", he said today. The vicar had remarked to him after the service that he had wondered whether it was "a short circuit in someone's hearing aid".

In a way, it was.

Mr Joseph Alsop, the columnist, who is about to retire, wrote today that President Ford "considers there is a horribly high chance of renewed war in the Middle East within hardly more than a year".

Reporting a conversation at a farewell lunch given to him by Mr Ford a week ago, he said the President foresaw "every kind of shocking consequence" from such a war, ranging from another oil embargo "to the emergence of a measure of serious anti-semitism" in the United States. In the event of Soviet intervention in a war, the President "plainly feels our military intervention cannot be excluded".

Mr Ford ends a good day's skiing: His bodyguard, however, are reported "mediocre" on skis.

Kissinger optimism on foreign policy

Washington, Dec 23

Dr Henry Kissinger, the Secretary of State, in wide-ranging interviews is delivering assured and relatively optimistic analyses of the world situation.

Whether or not, as some intimates suggest, he is deliberately covering his true feelings of deep pessimism and dismay, the fact is that in his latest public statement, in today's *Newsweek* magazine he speaks of "a growing realization that the political demoralization of the industrialized countries must be arrested".

He therefore asserts he is "not pessimistic" about Middle East negotiations. Indeed, he believes "it looks far more encouraging than it did" during last spring's Golan Heights disengagement talks. "I am in fact quite hopeful", he said.

Likewise, next to the Salt (strategic arms limitation) agreements, he gives greatest emphasis to the achievement among the Western industrialized countries of common approaches to oil diplomacy. Instead of the apocalypse he has sometimes invoked, he suggests that what is currently being pursued "may be the beginning of a restructuring of relationships" in the West.

He promises that very shortly President Ford will announce strong American energy conservation measures.

Dr Kissinger is also conciliatory towards Congress in insisting he is determined to go "to the absolute limit" of maintaining foreign policy on a bipartisan basis.

Dr Kissinger for the first time rules out American support for negotiating with the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO).

Asked how long he would stay at his post, he agreed that the timing of departure was difficult. "Most people are carried out instead of walking out. I have no itch to leave. But I also have no compulsion to stay."

The last words should be taken with an enormous dose of real salt.

Seven British servicemen missing at sea

Hongkong, Dec 23. — The marine authorities here fear for the safety of seven Hongkong-based British servicemen missing for three weeks on a cruise to the colony from Bangkok.

This afternoon they issued a radio message requesting shipping in the South China Sea to help to look for the topsail boat, the Russanee. The boat had not been heard from since December when an American warship reported sighting it some 200 miles south-east of Saigon in an area which has been hit by typhoons since early this month. The Russanee was last seen heading towards the Paracels, a group of islands in the South China Sea which a Chinese amphibious force took possession of last spring.

A military spokesman said the servicemen crewing the Russanee belong to the Royal Horse Artillery. He named them Major Geoffrey Ransby, Gunner George Sears, from Ormel Hempstead, Herts, Gunner David Rurr, from Leighton Bedfordshire, Gunner Michael Brigginshaw, from Herne Bay, Kent, Sergeant Michael Seabrook, from Shepperton, Middlesex, Lieutenant Mike Vacher, from Bridgwater, Somerset, and Colonel Myles Hughes, from Amersham.

£20m British interest-free loan for Pakistan

From Our Correspondent
Rawalpindi, Dec 23

Sir Laurence Pumphrey, the British Ambassador to Pakistan, today signed an aid agreement under which Pakistan will receive a £20m interest-free loan, repayable in 25 years with a seven-year grace period. The projects to be financed out of the loan are the subject of negotiations between the British and Pakistan Governments.

Today's agreement provided the biggest single loan agreement for project aid in many years. Britain's last project loan was made during the 1960s for railway electrification, although some commodity aid has been offered since.

Mr Rafi Raza, the Pakistan Minister for Industries and Production, is leaving for Moscow on December 25 to negotiate additional Russian aid for the country's first steel mill at Karachi. This is being built largely with Russian aid.

Inflation has raised its cost far above the original estimate of £360m, while the firm Russian commitment for the project has remained confined so far to £114m.

Our Delhi Correspondent writes: Britain has extended India a loan of £9.4m to cover debt relief under an agreement signed here today by Sir Michael Walker, the British High Commissioner, and Mr M. G. Kaul, Secretary in the Indian Economic Affairs Department.

The loan represents Britain's contribution to the debt relief scheme for 1974-75 agreed earlier this year by the World Bank's Aid India consortium.

It is in free foreign exchange, and not linked to the purchase of goods and services from Britain. It is also free of interest and service charges and is repayable over 25 years, with a grace period of seven years.

Russian Jews make plea for prisoners

Moscow, Dec 23.—Unmolested by a small number of watching policemen, some 45 Jews presented a petition to the Supreme Soviet today asking for the release of 40 "prisoners of Zion" from Soviet jails and labour camps.

The petition, bearing about 300 signatures, coincided with the fourth anniversary of the sentencing in Leningrad of 11 people, mostly Jews, who tried to hijack an airliner

Although the KGB security police had said the presentation of the petition would be considered a "provocation" they made no attempt to intervene when the group went to the Parliament reception building and handed to a clerk a letter addressed to President Podgorny.—UPI.

Zaire defends removal of crucifixes

Kinshasa, Dec 23.—The Zaire Government has rejected charges that the replacement of crucifixes by portraits of President Mobutu is anti-religious.

Mr Sakombi Inongo, political and national guidance commissioner, told the press: "There will be no religious war in Zaire, which is a lay state."

He said that by insisting that in all places open to the public only the portrait of President Mobutu should be exposed, the authorities were trying to fight against a form of "mental alienation". This consisted in "placing in our university faculties and higher teaching institutions, in our schools, dispensaries, hospitals and social centres, crucifixes, portraits of popes or photographs of certain foreign personalities".

Jail teacher is Klan member

New York, Dec 23.—A white teacher at a predominantly black prison in Pine Bush, New York State, has been suspended after the discovery that he is a leading member of the Ku-Klux-Klan. Charges are to be brought against him

He is Mr Earl Schoonmaker, and he has made no attempt to deny his Klan membership, saying that he is the Grand Dragon of the local branch. He is accused of bringing Klan material into the prison.

Dilemma of Japanese Premier

From Peter Hazelhurst
Tokyo, Dec 23

Attempts by the new Prime Minister, Mr Takeo Miki, to refurbish the tarnished image of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party by dissociating it from the excesses of Japan's powerful business houses, have only resulted in splitting the hierarchy for the two again and annoying leaders of industry and commerce.

The new controversy centres on Mr Miki's moves to give the teeth to Japan's Fair Trade Commission and anti-monopoly laws. It was touched off recently when the secretary general of the party, Mr Ichiro Nakasone (the former Minister for Trade and Industry), suggested that the government might water down the draft Bill designed to inhibit the country's *laissez faire* system.

In somewhat angry tones, Mr Miki denied Mr Nakasone's suggestion but not before the press had the chairman of the Fair Trade Commission, Mr Toshio Takahashi, had alleged that the new Government was again being influenced by interests of business.

At the same time, however, Mr Miki tried to assuage the fears of the more conservative elements of the ruling party and declared that he plans to maintain a free economic system by introducing "certain rules".

The controversial Bill was prepared by the autonomous Fair Trade Commission in September, but was shelved under the former Cabinet led by Mr Kakuei Tanaka, who was closely associated with the interests of big business. The draft Bill caused a furore in business circles and it has been vehemently opposed by Japan's Federation of Economic Organizations.

The concern of the large trading houses, which have controlling interests over the entire spectrum of business—from the aerospace industry down to hamburger stands—is not hard to appreciate.

In the first place the Fair Trade Commission, led by Mr Takahashi, an energetic and dedicated opponents of the *Zaibatsu* (powerful combines of industry and banking interests), has already forced the public prosecutor to indict 12 of Japan's most powerful oil companies on charges of forming a secret cartel to fix prices.

The new draft Bill would not only tighten up existing anti-monopoly laws but would give the Fair Trade Commission greater powers to crack down on price cartels, restrict stock holdings of large companies and break up large industrial groups into smaller units when they threaten to monopolize entire segments of the economy

There can be no doubt that some of the excesses of big business during the past year—hoarding of essential commodities, fixing prices and evasion of taxes—led to a rapid decline in the popularity of the Liberal Democrats

As a result, Mr Miki, who promised the country a clean and honest administration when he assumed office only two weeks ago, revived the Bill to tighten up anti-monopoly regulations.

It is obvious that many conservatives within the ruling party oppose Mr Miki's attempts to give the Fair Trade Commission greater powers. On the other hand, adverse reaction to suggestions that the Bill will be watered down has apparently shaken the Government.

Even the conservative *Mainichi Daily News* criticized attempts by pro-business factions within the ruling party to shelve the proposed Bill. "It seems that the Government and the Liberal Democratic Party are ready to ignore the vital questions raised by the Fair Trade Commission's draft concerning a number of dangerous pitfalls which exist in the nation's economic system today; such as monopolistic controls in the industrial and business fields which are dominated by oligopolistic corporations, and the increasing trend among large corporations to hold stocks of other companies, which is seriously hampering fair competition in various fields", the newspaper said today.

Greetings to you from the friends of Outset

Tim and Frances Aldington-Smyth
of Chiswick, W.4.

Lord and Lady Armstrong
of Knightsbridge, S.W.7.

Mr and Mrs Alec Badenoch
and family
of London, W.1.

Mr and Mrs Peter Bennett
of Kensington, W.8.

Nicholas and Rosalynd Blake
of Clapham, London.

Mr and Mrs Richard Briers,
Katy and Lucy
of Chiswick, W.4.

Broadway School
of Broadway, Cheadle, Cheshire.

C.P.A.G.
of Macklin St., London, W.1.

Hélène Propper de Callejon
of London, S.W.3.

Toni and Lionel Citroën
of Esher, Surrey.

Ray Cooney
of London, W.C.2.

Mr and Mrs A. R. Cottrell
of West Didsbury, Manchester.

Michael Densham
of Ealing, W.13.

Ron Dick
of London, W.1.

Oliver Drake and Julie MacCarthy
of Shepherd's Bush, London.

Mr and Mrs Michael Flanders
of Bedford Park, London.

Eric and Mary Frank
of Clifton, Bristol.

Dr Thomas Frankland,
Chairman, Charity Consultants
of London, W.1.

Mr and Mrs Stephen F. Frowen
of Shamley Green,
Nr. Guildford, Surrey.

Group Captain John and Lou Glen,
Andrew and Ian
of Sevenoaks, Kent.

Great Western Radiators Ltd.
of 9-12 Brandon Rd., London, N.7.

Grevil
of 182 Chiswick High Rd., W.4.

Halda Ltd.
of 3-4 Brandon Rd., London, N.7.

Robin and Marika Hanbury-Tenison
of Cardinham, Bodmin, Cornwall.

Irene Handl
of London, W.2.

David Harrison
of Compayne Gdns., London, N.W.6.

Peter and Rosemary Harrison
of Hillview Court, Woking, Surrey.

The Helping Hand Co.
(Invalid Aids)
of Sandhurst, Kent.

Helen and Michael Housley
of Theydon Bois, Epping, Essex.

Paul Hudson
of Fulham, London.

Imperial Tobacco Ltd.
of Lombard St., Bristol.

"Jesus Christ Superstar"
at the Palace Theatre.

John Kingsbury
of Worthing, Sussex.

Mr and Mrs John Knight
of Wepham, Arundel, Sussex,
and Kensington, London.

Ted and Yvonne Luff
of Kew, Richmond.

Peter Mario Restaurant
of 47 Gerrard St., London, W.1.

Paddy O'Connor, Deputy Whip
Greater London Council.

The company and staff of
"Pal Joey" and "King Stag"
at the Northcott Theatre, Exeter.

Penguin Books Ltd.
of Harmondsworth, Middlesex.

Daniel Plesch
of Nottingham University and
Ruislip, Middlesex.

"Punch and Judy" and "King
Arthur" for kids at the Round
House
of Chalk Farm Road, N.W.1.

R.D.S. (Agricultural) Ltd.
of Boundary Court, Woodchester,
Gloucester, Stroud.

Steve and Marilyn Roman
of Adelaide, South Australia.

Mr and Mrs Peter Ryan and Jane
of Chiswick, W.4.

Andrew and Sally Scadding
of Writtle, Chelmsford, Essex.

Harry Secombe, C.B.E.,
of Cheam, Surrey.

Valerie Singleton
of London.

The company of "Sleuth"
at the Fortune Theatre.

Mr and Mrs Lawrence Spalton
of East Harting, Hampshire.

Stephen Spender
of St. John's Wood, London.

Anne and Nicolas Stacey
of Selling, Faversham, Kent.

The Steen Family,
Stephen and Jacqueline, Anthony
and Carolyn, Jason and Xanthe
of London, Liverpool and
Rustington, Sussex.

Jack Sultzberger
of London, E.C.2.

"The Treasure Island" and "Cole"
Companies
at the Mermaid Theatre,
Blackfriars, E.C.4.

Turner Studios Ltd.
of 9-12 Brandon Road, London, N.7.

The staff of Ulverscroft Large Print
Books Ltd.
of Station Rd., Glenfield, Leics.

Boys and Staff of University College
School,
Frognal, N.W.3.

Watco (Sales) Ltd.
of 56 Buckingham Gate,
London, S.W.1.

Tim and Jackie Willis
of Broxted, Essex.

Anthony Young Ltd.
26 Uxbridge Rd., Ealing,
London, W.5.

Stephen, Sheila, Tony, Stephanie,
John, Kathy, Sue, Ian and
all the other OUTSET organisers
past and present.

This year again many friends of OUTSET have given us the cost of their Christmas cards. Their greetings, in which OUTSET joins, come instead in this space – which allows us to reprint some of Michael Flander's recent BBC Appeal. It says so much more than we can.

"T'was on a Monday morning the Gasman came to call." Remember Donald Swann's and my song about all the troubles that follow when "The Gasman Cometh"?

In these troubled times there are, unhappily, thousands of people to whom no-one ever comes. Old people, sick people, physically and mentally handicapped people; people who can't get out and who need extra help.

There is at the same time a great reservoir of capable help available; chiefly from young people. About a year ago I joined the Committee of a small but, I think remarkable charity called OUTSET, which sets out to connect these willing volunteers with those who need help.

Under an OUTSET organiser, groups of young people work for the community as a whole. They clean up littered beaches and beauty spots – that sort of thing – and also help individuals with work about the house and garden.

In some areas, OUTSET have undertaken surveys to track down cheap housing for the homeless. But its most important and impressive work has been its surveys on behalf of local authorities – to search out people who have a right to certain extra help under the 1970 Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons Act.

To put the Act into practice, a major problem had to be overcome. Many needy people are so cut off they do not know about the new services. Of those who do, many are too shy to ask for them.

So OUTSET was invited to help. The only certain solution was to call on every single address in the County or Borough and explain the help available. Up to now OUTSET has called on more than a million and a quarter households. About 45,000 people, some in desperate need, have been put in touch with help.

Altogether OUTSET has channelled some 30,000 young people into useful and inspiring work and organised it all with a full-time salaried staff of only three – assisted by a dozen-or-so young people working full-time around the country.

If you, like me, feel that this practical and efficient approach to helping the old, the disabled, the whole community, is something we can't do without – that OUTSET should be encouraged to carry on and expand – do please send a donation.

I would like to help OUTSET continue its community work in the coming year with this donation of £_____ Cheques and postal orders should be made payable to OUTSET.

Name

Address (Please use BLOCK letters)

OUTSET

30 Craven Street, London WC2N 5BR. 01-930 4255. Reg. Charity 261699

Appointments Vacant

GENERAL VACANCIES

ST. BASIL'S CENTRE

(Boot Night Shelter)
Birmingham

RESEARCH WORKER

Thanks to a grant received from the D.E.S. we are appointing a RESEARCH WORKER to undertake an 18-month research project to ascertain, through long interview techniques, the value or otherwise, of the emergency accommodation offered at the Boot Night Shelter.

We wish to do this by contacting as many of the young people who have used the Night Shelter as possible, in order that the appropriate feedback can be given to St Basil's and others about youth provision and its effectiveness.

Salary scale would be on that of a Research Associate, i.e., in the region of £1,700-£2,000 with normal conditions of employment.

Further information, application forms, etc., available from:

The Warden, St Basil's Centre
Heathmill Lane, Deritend
Birmingham B9 4AX

International Youth Exchange

YOUTH AND COMMUNITY SERVICES OFFICER

The Youth and Community Services Department of the Central Bureau for Educational Visits and Exchanges, an arm of government in the educational sphere, requires an energetic young (28+) qualified trained specialist. Duties will include young worker exchange development, advising Local Authorities and youth organizations about international opportunities and project planning, and co-ordinating information on voluntary work overseas programmes. Knowledge of French and/or German an advantage, as is experience in organizing training courses, etc.

Salary from £2,411 to £3,552 dependent on age and experience. Promotion prospects.

WRITTEN APPLICATIONS TO:
The Establishment Officer,
The Central Bureau for Educational Visits and Exchanges,
43 Dorset Street, London W1H 3FN
BY 13TH JANUARY, 1975.

REPUTABLE & CHEERFUL woman required to run small buffet for Fitnets Hall staff of Knightsbridge Auction Galleries. 9.30-3.30. Good salary. Please telephone 584 7161.

N.K. MEDIA COMPANY, specializing in International Fine Art and Antique publications, seeks representative with space selling experience. Must be adaptable and able to deal with gallery owners. Starting salary will be attractive to previous experience. Phone 01-493 1147.

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

ALDGATE LEGAL STAFF have many years' experience of dealing with most firms of solicitors in London and the U.K. enabling us to give a unique private service to all solicitors and other legal staff from outdoor clerks to partners looking for careers in private practice (no fees are charged to applicants).—For a confidential interview telephone or write to Mrs. Rolnick, Mrs. Edwards or Mrs. Joynes, 01-405 7201, at 6 Great Queen Street, W.C.2 (off Kingsway).

ACCOUNTANCY

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT
ALBERTA

Alberta Company requires Chartered Accountant to manage branch office in Fort Macmurray. This rapidly expanding modern town of 10,000 inhabitants lies 250 miles north of Edmonton in the famous Alberta Tar Sands.

Excellent salary and early partnership opportunities available.

Immediate interviews being arranged in London. Send full details of qualifications and past experience to:

Mr. G. Clews
c/o Alberta House,
37, Hill Street,
London, W.1.

ARTICLED CLERKS and trainees, London and nationwide introductory service, Barriers, and 1975 to £2,250. Transfers seeking better experience to £3,000. Telephone John Walker, B.A., A.C.A., Hewitson Walker, 01-222 0844.

BCAs and finalists wanted for 30 temporary assignments. Tel. John Walker, A.C.A. 01-222 [illegible].

ACCOUNTANCY

QUALIFIED CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT

required by travel agent in Piccadilly Circus

Salary £4,000

Applications in writing giving details of age, education and experience to Box 0173 M, The Times.

WELL EDUCATED young men will find a choice of good careers through Charles Carden Appointments.—53 Fleet St., E.C.4. 01-353 1164/4319.

PUBLIC AND EDUCATIONAL APPOINTMENTS

Benenden School, Kent

APPOINTMENT TO HEADSHIP

The Council of Benenden School invites applications for the headship which becomes vacant on 1st January, 1976. Benenden School, which was founded in 1923, is an independent Public Boarding School for Girls. There at present number about 350 between the ages of 12½ and 18. The closing date for the receipt of applications will be 15th February, 1975.

Further information may be obtained on request from the Secretary to the Council, Benenden School, Cranbrook, Kent, TN17 4AA.

EFL TUTOR

Vacancy for tutor in EFL in recognized school with range of interesting courses, some on Continent. Salary Burnham related, state superannuation scheme.—Please write Principal, School of English Studies, 26 Grimston Gardens, Folkestone, Kent.

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

University of Reading

FIVE LECTURERSHIPS IN LAW

Applications are invited for five LECTURERSHIPS in the newly established Department of Law. The vacancies arise as a result of the introduction of a new law degree course, teaching for which began in October 1974. The persons appointed will be expected to take up their duties on 1 October 1975 or such other date as might be arranged.

Further information may be obtained from the Registrar (Room 214), Whiteknights House, The University, Whiteknights, Reading RG6 2AH to whom applications should be sent to reach him not later than 31 January 1975. Five copies of the letter of application, giving particulars of the candidate's age, qualifications and experience, together with the names of two or three referees, should be submitted.

DOMESTIC SITUATIONS

WHOLE YOUTH OFFERED flexible immediately, as soon as possible for family in Bucks country town: own room, evenings, good salary. Apply Mrs. Lessing Wimborne (020125) 6926.

YOUNG LADY required to help look after girls in London, all report this winter. 385 5697.

AU PAIR SUNDAY PROBABLY Small bed jobs London or abroad. Call 87 Regent St., W.1 930 4707

RESIDENTIAL HOUSEKEEPER to provide home care for elderly couple (Missionary Minister in Hong Kong): daily help employed. Reply Bennett, Cherry Holme, Moat Lane, Prickwood, Great Missenden, Bucks.

SUMMER Working-Holidaymaker. Good Nanny, quarters, 2 adults. British Agency (SELT), London Rd., Horsham. Tel. 5571.

LEGAL NOTICES

THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948 In the Matter of GLADFOLD Limited. Nature of business: Hauliers.
WINDING-UP ORDER MADE 5th November 1974.
DATE and PLACE of FIRST MEETINGS:
CREDITORS 6th January 1975, at Room 239 Templar House, Holborn Viaduct, London EC1N 2HD at 10.15 o'clock.
CONTRIBUTORIES on the same day and at the same place at 10.45 o'clock.
D. A. WILLIAMS, Official Receiver and Provisional Liquidator.

THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948, in the Matter of DAROCAN Limited. Nature of Business: Neckwear Manufacturers.
WINDING-UP ORDER MADE 11th November 1974.
DATE and PLACE of FIRST MEETINGS:
CREDITORS 9th January 1975, at Room 239, Templar House, 81 High Holborn, London WC1V 6NP, at 10.15 o'clock.
CONTRIBUTORIES on the same day and at the same place, at 10.45 o'clock.
L. R. BATES, Official Receiver and Provisional Liquidator.

THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948, in the Matter of EMPEDOCLES Limited. Nature of Business: Retail Clothier.
WINDING-UP ORDER MADE 2nd December, 1974.
DATE and PLACE of FIRST MEETINGS:
CREDITORS 9th January, 1975, at Room 239, Templar House, 81 High Holborn, London, WC1V 6NP, at 11.15 o'clock.
CONTRIBUTORIES on the same day and at the same place at 11.45 o'clock.
D. A. WILLIAMS, Official Receiver and Provisional Liquidator.

THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948. In the Matter of MALOMEAD Limited. Nature of Business: Builders.
WINDING-UP ORDER MADE 16th November, 1974.
DATE and PLACE of FIRST MEETINGS:
CREDITORS 7th January, 1975, at Room 239, Templar House, 81 High Holborn, London, WC1V 6NP, at 11.15 o'clock.
CONTRIBUTORIES on the same day and at the same place at 11.45 o'clock.
L. R. BATES, Official Receiver and Provisional Liquidator.

CONTRACTS AND TENDERS

DEMOCRATIC AND POPULAR REPUBLIC OF ALGERIA

MINISTRY FOR INDUSTRY AND ENERGY
Société Algérienne de Réalisations et d'Etudes Minières
4, Bd Mohamed V—ALGIERS

NOTICE OF EXTENSION

Société Algérienne de Réalisations et d'Etudes Minières wishes to inform companies interested in the international invitation to tender issued for the supply of quarrying equipment that the period for submission of bids, initially due to expire on 12 December 1974, has now been extended to 6 JANUARY 1975.

ALREM

ENGINEERING AND CONSTRUCTION COMPANY

Seeks engineers specialising in the following fields

- Civil Engineering
- Mining
- Mechanical Engineering
- Electronics
- Ore Treatment
- Costing and Estimating

Handwritten applications with detailed curriculum vitae should be sent to:

Société Algérienne d'Etudes et Réalisations Minières
ALREM—4 Bd Mohamed V—Algiers (Algeria)

ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT OIL FIELDS

Yacimientos Petrolíferos Fiscales

On January 30, 1975, at 14.30 Argentine time (11.30 a.m. Houston time) will open bids for public tender 15-1560/74 that calls for one self-elevating drilling unit to drilling on 30 metres. Drilling equipment with minimum drilling capacity of 3,000 metres. Delivery will be a great factor in appraising the offer. Specifications and conditions upon request.

Argentine Government Oil Fields
5819 Richmond Ave., Suite 719
Houston Texas 77046
Telephone 621-4850
Telex 76-2441

PLANT AND MACHINERY

WANTED, Second hand Generator 250 Kilowatts. P.O. Box 2555, Salah, Kuwait.

LEGAL NOTICES

THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948 In the Matter of EUROPEAN EDITIONS (LONDON) Limited Nature of Business: General Merchants.
WINDING UP ORDER MADE 9th December, 1974.
DATE and PLACE of FIRST MEETINGS:
CREDITORS 6th January 1975, at Room G20, Atlantic House, Holborn Viaduct, London, EC1N 2HD at 2.00 o'clock.
CONTRIBUTORIES on the same day and at the same place at 2.30 o'clock.
D. A. WILLIAMS, Official Receiver and Provisional Liquidator.

THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948 In the Matter of E. L. & J. SAFE Limited. Nature of Business: Builders.
WINDING-UP ORDER MADE 18th November, 1974.
DATE and PLACE of FIRST MEETINGS:
CREDITORS 7th January, 1975, at Room 239, Templar House, 81 High Holborn, London, WC1V 6NP, at 11.45 o'clock.
CONTRIBUTORIES on the same day and at the same place at 12.15 o'clock.
L. R. BATES, Official Receiver and Provisional Liquidator.

SALEROOMS

at Phillips

The salerooms will close today at 12 noon and will reopen on Monday, December 30. They will be closed on New Year's Day.

Tue., Dec. 31, 11 a.m.	Good English & Continental Furniture, Works of Art, Carpets.
Thur., Jan. 2, 10 a.m.	Furniture etc. at Marylebone.
Fri., Jan. 3, 11 a.m.	Silver and Plated Ware.
Mon., Jan. 6, 11 a.m.	Antique & Decorative Furniture, Works of Art, Carpets.
Mon., Jan. 6, 11 a.m.	Watercolours and Drawings.
Mon., Jan. 6, 2 p.m.	Prints.
Tue., Jan. 7, 11 a.m.	Good English & Continental Furniture, Works of Art, Carpets.
Tue., Jan. 7, 2 p.m.	Books.
Wed., Jan. 8, 11 a.m.	Ceramics and Glass.

View 2 days prior and Cats. 25p by post unless stated.
Phillips the Auction People since 1796.
7 Blenheim Street, New Bond Street, London W1Y 0AS
Tel. 01-499 6541

LEGAL NOTICES

No. 003083 of 1974
IN the HIGH COURT of JUSTICE Chancery Division Companies Court In the Matter of ALBANY ESTATES Limited and in the Matter of the Companies Act 1948 and The Matter of Her Majesty's High Court of Justice.
The Humble Petition of Grant Frost Dredge Limited whose registered office is at The Globe, Fremlingham Lane, Norwich.
SHEWETH:
1. Albany Estates Limited (hereinafter called "the Company") was incorporated on the 13th day of November 1972 under the Companies Act, 1948.
2. The Petitioner is a creditor of the Company in the sum of £[illegible] and upwards.
3. The nominal capital of the Company is £100 divided into 100 shares of £1 each. The amount of the capital paid up or credited as paid up is £2.
4. The objects for which the Company was established are as follows:
"To purchase or otherwise acquire land and buildings and other objects set forth in the Memorandum of Association thereof."
5. The Company is indebted to your Petitioner in the sum of £[illegible] upon a judgment of your Honourable Court in an action wherein your Petitioner obtained against the Company in the Norwich District Registry of the Queen's Bench Division on the 5th day of [illegible] 1974 the sum of £2583.10 and £175 costs. The said sum of £2583.10 was due from the Company in respect of an account rendered in January 1973 for goods done at the request of the Company.
6. On the 13th September 1974 your Petitioner issued a Writ of Fieri Facias upon the goods of the Company on the 23rd September 1974 the Sheriff of Greater Lincoln to which the Writ was directed returned the Writ unsatisfied to the effect that the Company had no goods or chattels at its registered office upon which execution could be levied.
7. The said debt remains wholly unpaid and unsatisfied and the amount thereof is still justly due and owing to your Petitioner.
8. The Company is unable to pay its debts.
9. In the circumstances it is just and equitable that the Company be wound up.
Your Petitioner therefore humbly prays as follows:
(a) That Albany Estates Limited may be wound up by the Court under the provisions of the Companies Act 1948 or
(b) That such other order may be made in the premises as shall be just.
NOTE.—It is intended to serve this Petition on Albany Estates Limited.

IN the MATTER of M. SHELLOCK & Co. Limited and in the Matter of The Companies Act 1948.
Notice is hereby given that the CREDITORS of the above-named Company, which is being voluntarily wound up, are required on or before the 28th day of January, 1975, to send in their full Christian and surnames, their addresses and descriptions, full particulars of their debts or claims, and the names and addresses of their Solicitors (if any), to the undersigned William Gawen Mackey of 37 Chiswell Street, London, EC1 the Liquidator of the said Company, and, if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidator, are, personally or by their Solicitors, to come in and prove their debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved.
Dated this 18th day of December 1974.
W. G. MACKEY, Liquidator.

No. 002876 of 1974
In the HIGH COURT of JUSTICE Chancery Division Re: LIGHTRAE Limited and Re: The Companies Act 1948
Notice is hereby given that the ORDER of the High Court of Justice (Chancery Division) dated the 9th day of December 1974 CONFIRMING the REDUCTION of the CAPITAL of the above-named Company from £50,002 to £287 and the Minute approved by the Court showing with respect to the capital as altered the several particulars required by the above-mentioned Act were registered by the Registrar of Companies on the 13th day of December 1974.
Dated the 16th day of December 1974.
LINKLATERS & PAINES, Solicitors to the Company.

B.S.T.C. INSURANCE (BROKERS) Limited The Companies Act 1948
Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 293 of the Companies Act, 1948 that a meeting of the CREDITORS of the above-named Company will be held at Peat, Marwick, Mitchell & Co., 11 Ironmonger Lane, London, E.C.2, on 16th day of January 1975 at 10.30 o'clock in the forenoon for the purposes mentioned in Sections 293, 294 and 295 of the said Act.
Dated this 20th day of December, 1974.
By Order of the Board,
W. B. PRESTON, Secretary.

THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948 in the Matter of HOUSING & GENERAL CONSTRUCTION CO. Limited. Nature of Business: Builders & contractors.
WINDING-UP ORDER MADE 11th November, 1974.
DATE and PLACE of FIRST MEETINGS:
CREDITORS 9th January, 1975, at Room 239, Templar House, 81 High Holborn, London, WC1V 6NP, at 11.00 o'clock.
CONTRIBUTORIES on the same day and at the same place at 11.30 o'clock.
L. R. BATES, Official Receiver and Provisional Liquidator.

THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948 In the Matter of NASHVILE GARAGES (CAR TAPES) Limited. Nature of Business: Dealers in Car Accessories and hire equipment.
WINDING-UP ORDER MADE 11th November, 1974.
DATE and PLACE of FIRST MEETINGS:
CREDITORS 7th January, 1975, at Room 239, Templar House, 81 High Holborn, London WC1V 6NP, at 3.00 o'clock.
CONTRIBUTORIES on the same day and at the same place at 3.30 o'clock.
L. R. BATES, Official Receiver and Provisional Liquidator.

THE COMPANIES ACT 1948 In the Matter of H.I.A. POLICIES (BROKERS) Limited. Nature of Business: Insurance Brokers.
WINDING-UP ORDER MADE 11th November, 1974.
DATE and PLACE of FIRST MEETINGS:
CREDITORS 9th January, 1975, at Room G20, Atlantic House, Holborn Viaduct, London EC1N 2HD at 12.00 o'clock.
CONTRIBUTORIES on the same day and at the same place at 12.30 o'clock.
N. SADDLER, Official Receiver and Provisional Liquidator.

THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948 in the Matter of "ENNROSE" PROPERTIES Limited. Nature of Business: Property Developers.
WINDING-UP ORDER MADE 11th November, 1974.
DATE and PLACE of FIRST MEETINGS:
CREDITORS 9th January, 1975, at Room G20, Atlantic House, Holborn Viaduct, London, EC1N 2HD, at 10.15 o'clock.
CONTRIBUTORIES on the same day and at the same place, at 10.45 o'clock.
N. SADDLER, Official Receiver and Provisional Liquidator.

THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948 In the Matter of DAVID LOBE SECURITIES Limited. Nature of Business: Property Dealers.
WINDING-UP ORDER MADE 2nd December 1974.
DATE and PLACE of FIRST MEETINGS:
CREDITORS 8th January 1975, at Room G20 Atlantic House, Holborn Viaduct, London, EC1N 2HD at 3.00 o'clock.
CONTRIBUTORIES on the same day and at the same place at 3.30 o'clock.
N. SADDLER, Official Receiver and Provisional Liquidator.

LEGAL NOTICES

No. 003083 of 1974
IN the HIGH COURT of JUSTICE Chancery Division Companies Court In the Matter of ALBANY ESTATES Limited and in the Matter of the Companies Act 1948 and The Matter of Her Majesty's High Court of Justice.
The Humble Petition of Grant Frost Dredge Limited whose registered office is at The Globe, Fremlingham Lane, Norwich.
SHEWETH:
1. Albany Estates Limited (hereinafter called "the Company") was incorporated on the 13th day of November 1972 under the Companies Act, 1948.
2. The Petitioner is a creditor of the Company in the sum of £[illegible] and upwards.
3. The nominal capital of the Company is £100 divided into 100 shares of £1 each. The amount of the capital paid up or credited as paid up is £2.
4. The objects for which the Company was established are as follows:
"To purchase or otherwise acquire land and buildings and other objects set forth in the Memorandum of Association thereof."
5. The Company is indebted to your Petitioner in the sum of £[illegible] upon a judgment of your Honourable Court in an action wherein your Petitioner obtained against the Company in the Norwich District Registry of the Queen's Bench Division on the 5th day of [illegible] 1974 the sum of £2583.10 and £175 costs. The said sum of £2583.10 was due from the Company in respect of an account rendered in January 1973 for goods done at the request of the Company.
6. On the 13th September 1974 your Petitioner issued a Writ of Fieri Facias upon the goods of the Company on the 23rd September 1974 the Sheriff of Greater Lincoln to which the Writ was directed returned the Writ unsatisfied to the effect that the Company had no goods or chattels at its registered office upon which execution could be levied.
7. The said debt remains wholly unpaid and unsatisfied and the amount thereof is still justly due and owing to your Petitioner.
8. The Company is unable to pay its debts.
9. In the circumstances it is just and equitable that the Company be wound up.
Your Petitioner therefore humbly prays as follows:
(a) That Albany Estates Limited may be wound up by the Court under the provisions of the Companies Act 1948 or
(b) That such other order may be made in the premises as shall be just.
NOTE.—It is intended to serve this Petition on Albany Estates Limited.

IN the MATTER of M. SHELLOCK & Co. Limited and in the Matter of The Companies Act 1948.
Notice is hereby given that the CREDITORS of the above-named Company, which is being voluntarily wound up, are required on or before the 28th day of January, 1975, to send in their full Christian and surnames, their addresses and descriptions, full particulars of their debts or claims, and the names and addresses of their Solicitors (if any), to the undersigned Philip Montague, F.C.A., of 13 Wimpole Street, London W.1., the Liquidator of the said Company, and, if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidator, are, personally or by their Solicitors, to come in and prove their debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved.
Dated this 18th day of December 1974.
P. MONJACK, Liquidator.

No. 002778 of 1974
In the HIGH COURT of JUSTICE Chancery Division Mr. Justice Megarry In the Matter of ANGLO-CONTINENTAL INVESTMENT & FINANCE COMPANY Limited and In the Matter of The Companies Act, 1948
Notice is hereby given that the ORDER of the High Court of Justice, Chancery Division dated the 9th day of December 1974 CONFIRMING the REDUCTION of the SHARE PREMIUM ACCOUNT of the above-named Company from £34,596,666 to £31,999,728 was registered by the Registrar of Companies on the 12th day of December 1974.
Dated the 16th day of December 1974.
STEPHENSON HARWOOD & TATHAM, Saddlers Hall, Gutter Lane, Cheapside, London, EC2V 6BS.

THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948 In the Matter of J. & K. PROPERTIES (HARROW) Limited. Nature of Business: Property Developers.
WINDING-UP ORDER MADE 29th November, 1974.
DATE and PLACE of FIRST MEETINGS:
CREDITORS 10th January, 1975, at Room G20, Atlantic House, Holborn Viaduct, London, EC1N 2HD.
CONTRIBUTORIES on the same day and at the same place at 11 o'clock.
D. A. WILLIAMS, Official Receiver and Provisional Liquidator.

THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948 In the Matter of AUSRIO Limited Nature of Business: Clothing Manufacturers.
WINDING UP ORDER MADE 18th November 1974.
DATE and PLACE of FIRST MEETINGS:
CREDITORS 10th January 1975, at Room G20, Atlantic House, Holborn Viaduct, London EC1N 2HD. At 10.15 o'clock.
CONTRIBUTORIES on the same day and at the same place, at 10.45 o'clock.
N. SADDLER, Official Receiver and Provisional Liquidator

THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948 In the Matter of STREATHAM TRAVEL BUREAU Limited Nature of Business: Tourist Ticket & Travel agents.
WINDING UP ORDER MADE 26th November 1974.
DATE and PLACE of FIRST MEETINGS:
CREDITORS 9th January 1975, at Room 239 Templar House, 81 High Holborn, London WC1V 6NP at 2.50 o'clock.
CONTRIBUTORIES on the same day and at the same place at 3.00 o'clock.
L. R. BATES, Official Receiver and Provisional Liquidator.

THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948 in the Matter of ANDREW MOFFAT Limited. Nature of Business: Fire Protection Engineers.
WINDING-UP ORDER MADE 18th November, 1974.
DATE and PLACE of FIRST MEETINGS:
CREDITORS.—7th January, 1975, at Room 239, Templar House, 81 High Holborn, London, WC1V 6NP at 10.30 o'clock.
CONTRIBUTORIES on the same day and at the same place, at 11.00 o'clock.
L. R. BATES, Official Receiver and Provisional Liquidator.

THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948 In the Matter of B & T DECORATORS Limited. Nature of Business: Painters & Decorators.
WINDING-UP ORDER MADE 25th November, 1974.
DATE and PLACE of FIRST MEETINGS:
CREDITORS, 7th January, 1975, at Room G20, Atlantic House, Holborn Viaduct, London, EC1N 2HD, at 11.00 o'clock.
CONTRIBUTORIES on the same day and at the same place, at 11.30 o'clock.
D. A. WILLIAMS, Official Receiver and Provisional Liquidator.

THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948 In the Matter of THE COMPUTER STUDIO Limited Nature of Business: Film Producers.
WINDING UP ORDER MADE 25th November 1974.
DATE and PLACE of FIRST MEETINGS:
CREDITORS 9th January 1975, at Room G20, Atlantic House, Holborn Viaduct, London EC1N 2HD at 10.15 o'clock.
CONTRIBUTORIES on the same day and at the same place, at 10.45 o'clock.
D. A. WILLIAMS, Official Receiver and Provisional Liquidator.

LEGAL NOTICES

MELFORD SECURITIES Limited. Notice is hereby given that the Creditors of the above-named Company are required on or before the 31st January 1975 to send their names and addresses and the particulars of their DEBTS or CLAIMS, and the names and addresses of their Solicitors, if any, to Isidore Brilliant of 73-75 Mortimer Street, London W1N 8HX, the Liquidator of the said Company, and, if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidator, are, by their Solicitors, or personally, to come in and prove their said debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved.
Dated 17th December 1974.
I. Beilman, Liquidator

THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948 in the Matter of BRIANG FINANCE Limited. Nature of Business: Bankers & Financiers.
WINDING-UP ORDER MADE 13th November, 1974.
DATE and PLACE of FIRST MEETINGS:
CREDITORS 8th January, 1975, at Room G20, Atlantic House, Holborn Viaduct, London, EC1N 2HD, at 2.00 o'clock.
CONTRIBUTORIES on the same day and at the same place at 2.30 o'clock.
N. SADDLER, Official Receiver and Provisional Liquidator.

COUNTRY PROPERTIES

HOUSES BUILT, SURREY, etc.—A. T. Underwood & Co., Three Bridges, Crawley (17...) Sussex.

ESSEX / SUFFOLK BORDER.—Properties of individuality in lovely undulating countryside and picturesque medieval weaving villages.—H. J. TURNER & SONS, Chartered Surveyors, Sudbury, Suffolk (Tel. 72653/4).

LONDON AND SUBURBAN

17TH CENTURY Cottage, 24 miles London. £10,000.—Q-723 8214.

PROPERTY TO LET

GERRARDS CROSS.—Diplomat posted abroad seeks to let furnished house for two years. Three bedrooms, two central heating, garage. Very near station and shops. Rent £40 per week.—Telephone Gerrards Cross 83146.

PROPERTY WANTED

BOYD & BOYD Incorp Hawkes & Co. have applicants urgently seeking houses and flats for sale/let rent in London. 584 6883. 035 9474.

LAND FOR SALE

LAND WITH PLANNING PERMISSION

In principle
for Filling Station at Nigg Bay
Ross-shire

Land immediately adjacent to Brown & Root-Wimpey Highland Fabricators yard and proposed oil refinery.

Particulars from:
KILNERO
KILDARE EVANTON
Ross-shire
Tel. Evanton 205

GENERAL

SCOTLAND.—All concerned tired of town for job refreshing family, help in one-man office (farm, tourism) type, dairy, lend a hand with 2 kids (6 and 10). A spell in a country house with country pay sweetened by French cooking. Interested London 6/7 Jan.—Mister Dollimb, Cricch. Tel.: (0764) 2032.

SECRETARIAL

MISS GEE'S AGENCY

440 6101/4

May we wish our clients, staff and applicants a successful festive term, New Year, and look forward to seeing them at our Charity Bring-and-Buy Jamboree Book sale on Friday, 31st January.

CAROLINE GEE,
23 Abingdon Street, London, W.1.

TEACHER REQUIRED IN COLOGNE

6th January for 12 months. Graduate or Teacher trained. German an advantage.

Telephone 581 440 2931 from 26th December.

ROBBINS OF PUTNEY

OFFER

New MGB GT, overdrive cause New Rover 3.5, Rover 3.5 Auto, Rolls-Royce 1974 models, 3-door, 4,000 miles as new, New Hurtmobile and unique 1973 Ford Capri, 1600 XL cause, low mileage, concourse condition, £1,295.

Phone 01-788 7881.

JOAN FERRIS and all her staff would like to wish all clients and applicants the happiest of Christmases and a 1975 full of promise! We will be closed from 23rd-29th December inclusive, as 30th for our reorganization and relocation programme to be completed. Emergency number over Christmas 01-580 [illegible]. Joan Ferris Personnel Ltd., 113, Park Street, W.1. 01-408 2412/2415/2499.

£8,500 P.A. Efficient, extrovert P.A./Secretary (25-28) wanted for Director of leading merchant bank. Career Plan. 01-734 4284.

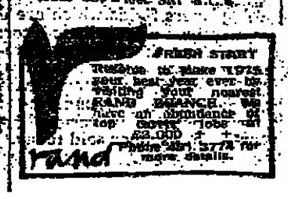
MONICA GROVE & ASSOC., 499 69 1, Personnel Consultants specializing in the selection of top community good staff.

SOMETHING DIFFERENT! Unusually interesting job for a secretary dealing with courses for other secretaries. Will have a chance to lecture from a platform herself. To £2,054 and 21 l.v.s.—Brook Street Bureau, 584 0661.

MOVING TIMES! Joyce Guiness Bureau has moved all the best jobs and the coffee pot down the road to 31 Crompton Avenue, Brompton Road, Knightsbridge, S.W.3 (a few steps from Knightsbridge Tube Station, Sloane St. exit).

TRAVEL AGENTS Cruise Dept., W.C.1 require Shore and Travel. £1,500 Public Adv. 836 2580.

TALENT TEMPS. Join the talented group, or Career Garden Bureau and start a first-class assignment through us. Call Mandy, Ring now. 353 0058/9315. 53, Fleet St., E.C.4.



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Stella Fisher has a great range of career jobs in all fields and part-time work for those with other commitments.

Please call (or write) for helpful advice to meet your personal needs. (We will be shut from tomorrow until next Monday).

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temporary or permanent
wanted now
to work all over London.
Phone Tari Hibbert
ALFRED MARKS BUREAU
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£1,450-£2,500

Conveyancing, Litigation, Cost Probate, Company and Commercial vacancies in all areas of London. We specialize in these positions for both Junior and Senior Secretaries. Contact Tuleen Porter on 01-405 7201, and discuss your new job today.

HAPPY NEW JOB FOR '75

Call on Claiman's
31/33 High Holborn, W.C.2
01-242 2691

GRADUATE GIRLS AND GRADUATE MEN

WISH EVERYONE THE BEST FOR CHRISTMAS AND THE NEW YEAR

ADventure

Wishes all Times Secretarial colleagues a happy Christmas and a happy New Year. We'll be closed for Christmas week but we open again on December 30th. Have fun and come in for some black coffee after the Festivities.

All at ADventure
Charing Cross Rd. and
South Molton St.

JAYGAR CAREERS

Wish all their friends
a very
HAPPY CHRISTMAS

SHOPS OPEN AGAIN AFTER CHRISTMAS!

That is the time for present and job changing. Come and talk to Mrs. Urwin about changing your present job.
ALBEMARLE APPOINTMENTS,
31 Berkeley St., W1X 5AE.
499 3712

USE YOUR PROPERTY KNOWLEDGE TO £2,500

The Secretary required for renowned estate agents' senior partner, with relevant experience in property, good speaking voice and good shorthand/typing speeds. Responsible position in super atmosphere among friendly people.

Ring Miss Kaye:
G.T. BUREAU,
145 Oxford Street, W.1.
437 5022—today.

TEACHERS OF ENGLISH

required by schools in Spain and Italy from 6th/7th January until the summer. Graduates or teacher trained. Experience not necessary.

Telephone 021 440 2621 from 26th December.

TODAY'S ACORN AD says very little because we're all at home and in bed not at 409 2908 or 493 2064 which are the numbers for when you want a better job, but not today 'cos as I said we're all in bed.

EFFICIENT SECRETARY Wanted—a live Canadian Stockbroker in the City close to Bank station 9.30 to 5.30. Salary negotiable.—Please phone LIZ 236 1622.

NEW YEAR RESOLUTION. Bond St. Bureau offers the finest selection of permanent and temporary vacancies. For personal service contact us on 499 1538.

PERMANENT SECRETARIES.—Why not try a small agency which has the time to discuss your personal needs and can offer highly paid jobs throughout Central London? London Town Bureau, 836 1994.

MAGGIE, Sue, Jane, and Shirin, of Career Girl Recruitment Consultancy, wish all their friends a Happy Christmas and a successful New Year.

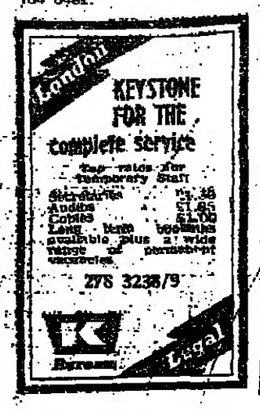
THE STAFF of The Belgravia Bureau wish all their customers a very happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year. 584 4343.

SECRETARIES for Architects. Contact RMSA Agency. 734 0532.

RARETYPES. Join our exclusive team of top Temporary Secretaries. £1.35 p.h. Career Plan 734 4384.

SECRETARY! Fashion Fabric Co. nice firm, 4 weeks holiday, £2,000.—Brook Street Bureau, 637 3115.

SECRETARY! Pleasant job in friendly firm. 9 p.m. finish. £2,200.—Brook Street Bureau, 734 5481.



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BRAND NEW Silver Shadow. Latest unregistered shell grey Rolls-Royce. All extras. Offers. Telephone 01-385 5867 (office) or 01-935 6746 (home).

1960 ROLLS-ROYCE Silver Cloud III. Exceptional condition. Only 46,000 miles. £4,000.—Normans. 01-[illegible] 0082.

SILVER SHADOW 1972 Silver Grey/Blue trim, 10,000 miles only. Sunroof, Windows, speed control, air conditioned, quadraphonic radio, managing director's car, must be seen to be appreciated. Full documented service history. Tel Brighton 27383. Price £8,950.

LATE 60 BENTLEY S3, navy on black pearl, exceptional condition, mileage extra £1,800 a.n.o. 01-221 8558 (My time).

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NEW MERCEDES-BENZ
NEW ALFA ROMEO
NEW BMW
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See them all at
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Automatic dark blue, fitted a black stereo plus self-seeking radio, electric aerial. Personal registration number 4 KH.

£1,500.

Telephone Norman Radford
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RANGE ROVERS at Carson. Triumph Stag at Clifton. Rover/Rolls dealers at Sarum. Rover 2200 cars 2500 at Carson. New and used Range Rovers urgently required. 01-388 [illegible], 01-446 0879 (evgs.).

LEX FOR JAGUARS. 01-992 [illegible] Lex for Daimlers. 01-992 [illegible] Lex for Triumphs. 01-992 [illegible] Lex for Rovers. 01-992 [illegible]

ALL ROVERS and Land-Rovers (Leaflet).—Cavendish Motors 01-459 9045.

CITROEN. Special Offers on all models. Also national error proof Continental Car Centre. 01-437 8821.

R/ROVER, STAG, Daimler, Jag. Colour Choice. 0462 [illegible]

AUSTIN 1100 1.5 1974, vinyl top, 11,000 miles, excellent condition, one owner, full road drive £1,000.—Tel. 937 4151.

NEW 2.8L STAGS, Tanco Rover, immediately available. C.L.M. 01-930 9317.

NEW DATSUN 120Y estimate available. C.L.M. 01-930 9317.

S. G. SMITH offer a large selection of new and used Rover cars in immediate delivery.—Tel.: 01-77[illegible] 3355.

DAIMLER XJ6 Sag R/Rover, Beige cut Stripe.—01-731 [illegible] CTA

EUROCARS LONDON LTD. Fully registered Nov. 1973. Cortina 3E E.F.I., finished in Or de Simplo with carbine lorsky interior. Fitted air conditioning, tinted glass all round, reclining passenger seat, price £3,350. Eurocars (London) Ltd. Tel. 262 9728-9. We also have a wide variety of models to choose from.

SITUATIONS WANTED

GENTLEMAN, retired, 60, seeks part-time occupation London area. Fully active and energetic, experienced driver, impeccable relator and versatile. Excellent references.—Box 2207 D, The Times.

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SHARE-A-FLAT Queens Hse, Leicester Sq. No advance fee. 734 5[illegible].

FLATSHARE, 213 Piccadilly. 734 0318. Professional people wanted. Ring 235 2349 after 5 pm.

RENTALS

A BEDROOMED furnished detached house in pleasant wooded surroundings near Bracknell. Available Jan. Lounge, dining room, 2 bathrooms, family room, kitchen, utility room, twin garage includes washer, dryer, fridge, freezer. Rent £140 p.w. Would take client with good refs. Phone Bracknell 25512 (home) from 7 p.m. Sunday.

AROUND TOWN FLATS wish all our clients the compliments of the season and would remind you that we will remain with our 197[illegible] selection of luxury apartments and houses on December 30th. 0[illegible] 229 0033.

IDEAL NEWS FLAT, W.2. Luxury furnished, corked double bedroom and bathroom, living room, fitted kitchen, private double garage. Available January to [illegible] £45 p.w. Telephone 01-262 0[illegible] or 01

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ENTERTAINMENTS

When telephoning use prefix 01 only outside London Metropolitan Area

OPERA AND BALLET

COVENT GARDEN 240 1911
THE ROYAL BALLET
Boxing Day & Sat., 2 & 7.30, & Mon. next 7.30. Sleeping Beauty. Theatre closed today & tomorrow.
THE ROYAL OPERA
Fri. 7 to move of repertory. Seats available current Boxing Day eve. & Sat. eve.

COLISEUM 01-836 3161
ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA
Sat. 7.30 (after at seven). Dec. 31, 6.30: The Mastersingers. No Opera perfs. until February. (See under Theatres for PETER PAN.)

ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL. Dec. 26 to Jan. 11: Daily 3 & 7.30 (Jan. 1 & 10 at 7.30 only). LONDON FESTIVAL BALLET in THE NUTCRACKER.

SADLER'S WELLS THEATRE. Rosebery Ave. 837 1672. Evs. 7.30. Matts. Wed. & Sat. 2.30. D'OYLY CARTE in GILBERT & SULLIVAN. Boxing Day 4.30 & 7.30: Princess Ida. Fri. & Sat.: Patience.

CONCERTS

MUSIC STUDIO with grand piano for practice or teaching. Victoria.—834 4988.

THEATRES

ADELPHI 836 7611. Until Jan. 11 Daily 3.0, 7.30 LIVE ON STAGE in "SPECTACULAR THRILLER" S. Tel.
DR WHO & THE DALEKS
in "SEVEN KEYS TO DOOMSDAY HAD A YOUNG AUDIENCE SUSPENDED BETWEEN WONDER & FEAR." E.S. "A SUPER SHOW." Tel.

ALBERY. 836 3878. Mon. to Fri. 8. Sats. 5.30 & 8.30. Mat. Thurs. at 3. DOROTHY TUTIN, PETER EGAN, DOROTHY REYNOLDS, CLIVE MORTON in J. M. Barrie's Comedy
WHAT EVERY WOMAN KNOWS
"A triumph. A delightful evening." Daily Mirror. "A joy." D. News.

ALDWYCH 836 6404
RSC in Shakespeare's
CYMBELINE
(Box. Off. 240 5258 & 7.30). Fri. 7.30: Shakespeare's RICHARD II (Richard Pasco—Sat. 2.30, Dec. 30 Eve. Jan. 4 Eve.—R. Pasco Richardson—Sat. 7.30, Jan. 4 mat.). Matinees Wed. FAUSTUS (Dec. 31, Jan. 1 at 2.—First Performance Wednesday). THE MARQUIS OF KEITH (Jan. 2 at 7.30). Theatre closed today & tomor. Box office reopens Thu. Dec. Recorded booking info. 836 0772.

AMBASSADORS. 836 1171. Ev. 8. Sat. 6 & 8.30. Tue. mat. Seats 1.30, 2.45. Extra Mat. Wed. at 3 p.m.
JACK THE RIPPER
"A SUPER ROARING CHRISTMAS HIT"—Sun. "THIS MUSICAL GAVE ME GREAT PLEASURE."—H. Express.

AMBASSADORS. THE MOUSETRAP
Transferred next door to St. Martin's.

APOLLO. 437 2663. (8 perfs. today & tomor.) Mat. day 3.0 & 8.0 Fri. Sat. Sat. 6.0 & 8.30.
DEREK NIMMO
"SUPERB CLOWN."—D. Express.
KATY MANNING
"Natural Comic."—E. Standard.
WHY NOT STAY FOR BREAKFAST?
"Derek Nimmo is gentle, tender, very funny and extremely touching. Both play and performance are to be warmly recommended."—S. Times. OVER 400 PERFORMANCES.

CAMBRIDGE. 836 6056. Eve. 8. Mts. 2.45, 8.30. Bks-D. & Wed. 3. Wed. mats. all seats £1. OAP's 50p.
BRIAN RIX JIMMY LOGAN
"Peter Bland & 3 gorgeous girls."—SN
A BIT BETWEEN THE TEETH
"You CAN take the kids."—BBC

ASINO, off Shaftesbury Ave., W.1. WICOX STEPTOE & SON WILFRID BRAMBELL HARRY H. CORBETT
CINDERELLA
Daily 2.30 & 7.30 (437 6877).
"If you're only one show to see this Xmas, make it Cinderella."—Times. "A spectacular, colourful show." Mir. "A stunning Cinderella."—D. Mail. "The whole thing is a triumph."—FT. "London's best panto for years." News of the World.

OLISEUM. 836 3161. Until Jan. 11. Night 7.30, Bks-D 2 & 7.30. (also all Dec. 30, Jan. 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, eves: Dec. 30, Jan. 1, 3, 6, Mings: on. 4 and 8.
SUSAN AMPSHIRE MICHAEL DENISON
PETER PAN
Seats avail. evening perfs. (For English National Opera see Opera and Ballet section)

OMEDY. 930 2578. Evenings 8.0 Sat. 5.30, 8.30. Mat. Thurs. 3.0.
ROEL PATRICK DULCIE GRAY PETER SALLIS PETER VAUGHAN BRIAN WILDE in
THE PAY-OFF
THRILLER! "IT'S A DOUBLE-CROSSING DELIGHT." "AN EVENING OF UNDILUTED PLEASURE." Sunday Times.

RITERION. 930 3216. Eves. 8. Sats. 5.45, 8.30. Bkg. Day & Weds. 3.
THE NEW COMEDY HIT
BRILLIANT Bernard CRIBBINS. S Tel
Geoffrey Jennifer Jane
BUMNER ALEXANDER DOWNS
Bill PERTWEE
EXPERT "Peggy MOUNT—(Stage)
THERE GOES THE BRIDE
"VERY FUNNY."—E. News.

URY LANE. 836 8108. Evgs. 7.30 & Wed., Sat. and Boxing Day 2.30
MICHAEL CRAWFORD in
BILLY
A NEW MUSICAL
CRAWFORD'S ASTONISHING TALENT MUST BE ONE OF THE SIGHTS OF LONDON. NO RESIDENT OR VISITOR SHOULD MISS."—S. Exp.

CHESS. 836 8243
Evenings 8.0. Fri., Sat. 6.15, 9.0
ALIVE ON STAGE!
OH! CALCUTTA
OVER 1,500 PERFORMANCES
"BEATHTAKINGLY BEAUTIFUL. S Tel. "NUDITY IS STUNNING. D. Tel.

KE OF YORK'S. 836 5122 3. Mats only. Today at 12 & 3 p.m., Thurs. 3 p.m., 5 p.m. Subs. daily 11 a.m. (Sats. 11 a.m., 2 p.m.). The Adventures of PADDINGTON BEAR.

RTUNE. 836 2238. Evenings at 8.0. 5.50 & 8.30. Thurs. 2.45 red. pr.
SLEUTH
BEST THRILLER EVER."—NY Times
Now in its 5th Great Year.

RRICK. 836 4601. Evs. 8. Sats. 5.30, 8.30. Red. pr. Wed. Mats. Wed. 3. Extra Mat. Dec. 26 at 3.00. Introducing MOIRA LISTER, S.Times and ELSPETH MARCH
BIRDS OF PARADISE
"CONVINCINGLY FUNNY." CityPress

OBE THEATRE. 437 1592
TOM COURTENAY in
THE NORMAN CONQUESTS
by ALAN AYCKBOURN
"LE MANNERS. Tnt. Fri. & Mon. 5: LIVING TOGETHER. Box. day Sat. 5.30: R'ND & R'ND THE GARDEN. Box. day & Sat. 5.30."

ENNWICH. 836 7756. Dec. 26-Jan. 4. HARDING'S LUCK. Dec. 26-Jan. 4. 9.30 p.m. ASPECTS OF MAX FALL.

MPSTEAD THTR. CLUB. 723 4301 From Dec. 30 to Jan. 11 (Mats only) Children's Shows 3 pm: KOVARI Master Musicians from Budapest. 5.30 pm: SON, SON, GET THE GUN An adventure story. (From Jan. 7: THE SASH by Hector MacMillan.)

YMARKET. 930 9832. Evenings 8.0 5.0 & 8.0 (Closed Dec. 25, 26). Extra Mat. Dec. 26 at 3.0
ALFORD JOHNS, LEE MONTAGUE
WHO SAW HIM DIE?
"SUPER! Exhausting THRILLER"—Daily Mirror. Ends Jan. 18.

YMARKET THEATRE. 930 9832
Today & Boxing Day at 3.0
TOAD OF TOAD HALL

E MAJESTY'S. 930 6606
s. 7.30. Mat. Wed. & Sat. 2 & Dec. 27 at 3.0. No perf. Dec. 24 25.
IN MILLS absolutely showstopping. DENCH ravishing."—S. Times. In J. B. Priestley's
THE GOOD COMPANIONS
orgeously nostalgic musical" Now

S'S HEAD THEATRE CLUB. Xmas osure. KENNEDY'S CHILDREN opens Dec. 30.

THEATRES

KING'S ROAD THEATRE. 352 7488
Mon. to Thurs. 8.0, Fri. Sat. 7.30, 9.30
THE ROCKY HORROR SHOW
"BEST MUSICAL OF THE YEAR" Evening Standard DRAMA AWARDS.

LYRIC. 01-437 3686. Evenings 8.0 Fri., Sat. & Dec. 26 at 5.0 & 8.00 (No perfs. Dec 24, 25)
JOHN, PAUL, GEORGE, RINGO & BERT—The Hit Musical
"HUGELY ENJOYABLE." S. Times. "BRILLIANT! MAGICAL. E.S. "WONDERFUL SONGS." S. Tel.

MAYFAIR. 629 3036
Evgs. 8.15, Sat. 8.15, 10.0
An Evening with
HINGE & BRACKET
A Musical Revue.

MAYFAIR. 629 3037. Until Jan. 4
SOOTY'S XMAS SHOW
Mon. to Fri. at 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. Sat. 10.30 a.m., 2 p.m. and 4 p.m.

MERMAID. 238 7650. Rest. 248 2835. Evenings only at 8.30
COLE
Best musical entertainment in town.
TREASURE ISLAND
A Musical Adventure at 2.0 & 4.15 with Bernard Miles, Spike Milligan.

NEW LONDON. 405 0072. Drury Lane. W.C.2. Red. price prevs. tonight & Boxing day 8.0, opens Mon. 7.0, sub. 8.0. Fri., Sat. 5.30, 8.30.
SHEILA HANCOCK GEORGE COLE
in Dear Delia Revue
A Review of Reviews.

OLD VIC. THE NATIONAL THEATRE 928 7616. Tonight 7.30
Boxing Day 2.15 & 7.30.
Peter Nichols'
THE FREEWAY
Fri. 7.30. Sat. 2.15 & 7.30.
SOUS
Monday at 7.30.
GRAND MANOEUVRES
SEATS ALWAYS AVAILABLE DAY OF PERFORMANCE FROM 10 a.m.

PALACE. 437 6834. Mon.-Thurs. 8.0 Fri.-Sat. 6.0 & 8.40
JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR
"perfs on Dec. 26, 27, 28, Jan. 1 at 6.0 & 8.40. Closed Dec. 24, 25

PALLADIUM. 437 7373. Evgs 7.30 Mats. daily from Dec. 26 at 2.30
TOMMY STEELE
in a British New Musical
HANS ANDERSEN

PHOENIX. 836 8611. Evgs. 8.0. Fri. 3.30. Sat. & Box. Day. 5.30, 8.30.
ELAINE STRITCH
in Noël Coward's
THE GINGERBREAD LADY
"Brilliant performance."—Gdn. "The evening is a total joy."—Mail.

PHOENIX THEATRE. 836 8611
Until Jan. 11. Daily 2.30 p.m. A. A. Milne's WINNIE THE POOH. Add. perfs. 11 a.m., Dec. 27, 28, 30, Jan. 4, 6, 11.

PICCADILLY. 437 4506. Mon. to Fri. 8. Sat. 5.30 & 8.30. Mat. Wed. 3.45.
DINAH SHERIDAN, JACK WATLING, RAYMOND FRANCIS in a new thriller by FRANCIS DURBRIDGE
THE GENTLE HOOK

PRINCE OF WALES. 930 8681.
(No perfs. today & tomorrow)
Thur., Fri., Sat. 5.30 & 8.45.
THE DANNY LA RUE SHOW
"splendiferous revue."—F. Times.

PURCELL ROOM (928 3191) Daily at 3.15 from 26 Dec. until 4 Jan. LITTLE ANGEL MARIONETTE THEATRE presents ANGELO. Tickets 80p, 60p. Extra perfs. at 4 on 26, 28, 29 Dec. and 4 Jan.

QUEENS. 734 1166. Evgs. 7.30 sharp (No perfs. Dec. 24, 25). Mat. Dec. 26 at 2.30. Sat. 4.45 & 8.15.
JOAN PLOWRIGHT FRANK FINLAY
SATURDAY SUNDAY MONDAY
Directed by FRANCO ZEFFIRELLI

RAYMOND REVUEBAR THEATRE 734 1593. 7.30 and 10 p.m. PAUL RAYMOND presents
THE FESTIVAL OF EROTICA
From Jan. 1 New Edition nightly at 7 p.m., 9 p.m. & 11 p.m.

REGENT. 930 1744. Mon., Tu., Thu., 8.30. Wed., Fri., Sat. 7.0 & 9.15
LET MY PEOPLE COME
A Sexual Musical
"You name it they've got it. Never a dull moment."—News. SEATS AVAILABLE AT BOX OFFICE OVER THE HOLIDAY PERIOD.

ROUND HOUSE. 267 2564
Eves. at 8. Sat. 6 & 9
AUTOSACRAMENTALS
A nude spectacle on the creation of man
Directed by Victor Garcia
Kids Puppet Shows daily 11 a.m. & 3 p.m. Tickets 25p & 50p.

ROYAL COURT. 730 1745
Previews from 31 Dec. at 7.30
OBJECTIONS TO SEX AND VIOLENCE
by Caryl Churchill

ROYALTY. 405 8004. Until Jan. 18 Evgs. 8.0. Mat. Th., Sat. 3.30.
The World's Greatest Magician
SORCAR Junior
A great show for all the family.

ST. MARTIN'S. 836 1443. Eves. 8 Mats. Tues. 3.45 and Sats. 5 & 8 Extra Mat. Dec. 26 at 5 p.m.
AGATHA CHRISTIE'S
THE MOUSETRAP
23RD YEAR
WORLD'S LONGEST-EVER RUN

SAVOY 836 8888. No perfs. until Bx-D. 3 & 8. Fri. 8 p.m., Sat. 5 & 8.
ROBERT MORLEY
"REMARKABLY FUNNY."—E. Stan.
Ambrosine PHILLPOTTS William FRANKLYN Joyce CAREY
A GHOST ON TIPTOE
OVER 250 PERFS.

SHAFTESBURY. 01-836 6596. Evenings 8.0. Sat. 5.30 & 8.30
WEST SIDE STORY
"Bursting to life with undiminished theatrical excitement."—S. Tel. "A definite winner. I strongly recommend it."—F. Times.
ALIVE ON STAGE
Mon. to Fri. 1.30 & 4.30. Sat. 11.30 a.m. & 2.30 (No Perfs. Dec. 25).
THE WOMBLES XMAS SHOW
Tel. 01-836 4255.

SHAW 01-388 1394. Ends Dec. 28 Tweo daily 2 p.m., 3 p.m. (no perf. today at 2 p.m.). Closed Dec. 25.
KEN CAMPBELL'S
OLD KING COLE

STRAND. 836 2660.
(No perfs. today & tomorrow)
Thurs., Fri., Sat. 5.30 & 8.30
Jean Kent, Liza Goddard
Richard Caldicot & Derek Royle in
NO SEX PLEASE—WE'RE BRITISH
Directed by Allan Davis
"Hysterically funny."—S. Times.

STRATFORD - UPON - AVON. Royal Shakespeare Company (0789) 2271. Now in repertoire: MACBETH, TWELFTH NIGHT. Recorded booking information (0789) 69191.

THEATRE AT NEW END (435 4311). Closed today 26th Dec. Shaw's "DARK LADY OF THE SONNETS", "PASSION, POISON & PETRIFICATION", "MUSIC CURE". 7.45 pm. hilarious entertainment.

THEATRE UPSTAIRS. 730 2554
REMEMBER THE TRUTH DENTIST
by Heathcote Williams
Evs. 8.15 (no perf. Dec. 23-26 incl.)

TH. WORKSHOP, STRATFORD, E.15. 534 0310. Evenings 8 p.m. No Mats.
DRACULA
Daily mats. 3.30 until Jan. 4th.
LAND OF THE DINOSAURS

VAUDEVILLE. 836 9988
Evgs 8.0. Mat. Tu. 3.0. Sats. 5 Boxing Day 3.30 & 8.40
FENELLA FIELDING, PETER BLYTHE in ALAN AYCKBOURN'S
ABSURD PERSON SINGULAR
"BEST COMEDY OF THE YEAR" —Evening Standard Award.

VICTORIA PALACE 834 1317. Evgs. 8.0 Wed., Sat. & Dec. 26. 6.0 & 8.45
MAX BYGRAVES
"SWINGALONGMAX"
New Song and Laughter Spectacular with Rogers & Starr, Bobby Crush, Denise Keane & Happy and Full Co.

WEMBLEY EMPIRE POOL (No perfs. today). Boxing Day, Fri., Dec. 27 & all Sats., 2, 5 & 8. Next week: Mon.-Fri. twice daily 2 & 6. Lavish Ice Panto.
ALADDIN
CHILDREN ½ PRICE most performances. Pay at doors. (01-902 1234)

WESTMINSTER. 834 0283. Book Now! Daily 3.30, Fri. 7.30, Sat. 6.30
GIVE A DOG A BONE
11th Season Enchanting Family Panto. "One of the great delights of the Christmas scene."—D. Mail.

WHITEHALL. 930 6692 7765. 6th Year Evgs. 8.30. Wed., Sat. 3.15, 8.45
PAUL RAYMOND'S
PYJAMA TOPS
Featuring the New £10,000 "See thro' Swimming Pool"

WINDMILL. 437 6312
PAUL RAYMOND presents
A Sensuous Sex Comedy
LET'S GET LAID
(twice nightly at 7.0 & 9.0

WYNDHAM'S. 836 3028
Evgs. 8. Sats. 5.30 & 8.30.
Celia JOHNSON Tony BRITTON Alan CLIFFORD
in William Douglas Home's new play
THE DAME OF SARK
"SUPERB" — Harold Hobson.

YOUNG VIC (by Old Vic). 928 6363 Tdy., Fri., Sat. 2 & 5. FANTASTIC FAIRGROUND (Christmas adventure—children 3 to 9). Next Wk. ROSENCRANTZ & GUILDENSTERN ARE DEAD.

YOUNG VIC STUDIO (928 6363). Dec. 24, 27, 28, 30, 31, Jan 3, 4 at 2.30 pm. THE HOGARTH PUPPETS.

THEATRES

TALK OF THE TOWN. 01-734 5051
From 8.15 Dining and Dancing. 9.30 Revue A TOUCH OF VENUS. And at 11 p.m.
MATT MONRO

CINEMAS

ABC 1 & 2. Shaftesbury Ave. 836 8861. Sep. perfs. All seats bkble.
ABC 1. MURDER ON THE ORIENT EXPRESS (A). Wk. & Sun. 2.50, 5.50, 8.50.
ABC 2. AIRPORT 1975 (A). Wk. & Sun. 3.10, 6.15, 8.15.

ABC BLOOMSBURY 837 1177
Brunswick Sq. Nr. Russell Sq. Tube. WHAT'S UP DOC (U). 1.30, 3.05, 5.35, Progs. 2.40, 5.00, 7.50.

ACADEMY ONE (437 2981). Terrence Malick's award-winning BADLANDS (A). Progs. 2.15, 4.20, 6.30, 8.40.

ACADEMY TWO (437 5129). Victor Erice's THE SPIRIT OF THE BEEHIVE (AA) & MIKIS THEODORAKIS (U). Progs. 1.00, 3.40, 6.00, 8.20.

ACADEMY THREE. (437 8819). Tarkovsky's Russian Masterpiece. ANDREI RUBLEV (AA). 3.45, 6.50. Sat. 11.10, 3.45, 6.50.

COLUMBIA. 734 5414
Jon Voight THE ODESSA FILE (A) Cont. Progs. Dly. 3.35, 6.35, 8.15. Closed tomorrow. Open from Thursday.

CURZON, Curzon St., W.1. 499 3737
Ingmar Bergman's SCENES FROM A MARRIAGE (AA), at 1.55, 4.55, 7.55. Phone bookings accepted. "The best and most intelligent film around in London at present."—David Robinson, Times.

DOMINION. Tott. Crt. Rd. (580 9562)
THAT'S ENTERTAINMENT (U). Sep. Progs. 2.10, 6.20, 8.25. All seats bkble. Closed tomorrow. Open from Thursday.

EMPIRE. Leicester Square
EARTHQUAKE (A). You'll FEEL it as well as see it in SENSURROUND. Progs. Daily 2.30, 5.50, 8.30. Sep. Perfs. All seats bookable. No phone bookings.

GATE CINEMA. Notting Hill Gate. 727 5735. GREAT COMEDIES SEASON. BUSTER KEATON in THE SAPHEAD (U) & KLATUN SHORTS. 2.05, 4.40, 6.55, 9.10, 11.45 p.m. and W. C. FIELDS in GOLF SPECIALIST (U) & THE DENTIST (U). 1.20, 3.45, 6.10, 10, 8.25, 11 p.m. OPEN ALL DAY XMAS & XMAS EVE. Gala Late Night Minbus.

LEICESTER SQUARE THEATRE (930 5252) Walt Disney productions. THE ISLAND AT THE TOP OF THE WORLD (U) Plus WINNIE THE POOH and TIGGER TOO (U). Cont. Dly. 1.00, 3.20, 5.50, 8.20. Advance bookings on 930 0116. Closed tomorrow. Open from Thursday.

MINEMA. 43 Knightsbridge 235 4225/6 Judy Garland in "THE WIZARD OF OZ" (U) Daily 3.0, 6.20, 9.0. Late Show Fri. & Sat. 11.15. All seats £1.40 (Bookable by phone). Children 75p. at 3.0 & 5.30 Perfs. Showing until Wed. 1st Jan. (Closed 24th & 25th Dec.)

ODEON HAYMARKET (930 2738/2771) Dirk Bogarde, Charlotte Rampling. THE NIGHT PORTER (X). Sep. Progs. Wk 1.45, 5.00, 8.20. All seats bookable. Closed tomorrow (normal Progs. Thur.).

ODEON, LEICESTER SQUARE (930 6111) THE MAN WITH THE GOLDEN GUN (A). Cont. Progs. Wk. 1.50 (not Boxing Day), 4.10, 6.45, 8.35, 9.10. Circle Seats Bookable. Advance booking on 930 0416. Closed Christmas Day.

ODEON, MARBLE ARCH (723 2011/2) Roger Moore, Susannah York, GOLD (A). Today one programme only at 1.00. Closed tomorrow. From Thursday. Sep. Progs. 1.00, 4.30, 8.00. All seats bookable.

ODEON, ST. MARTIN'S LANE (836 0691/1811). Closed today and tomorrow. From Thursday FANTASTIC PLANET (A) CRYSTAL VOYAGER (U). Music by The Pink Floyd. Cont. Progs. Wk. 2.00, 4.50, 7.40.

PARAMOUNT, Lower Regent St. AIRPORT 1975 (A). Progs. Daily 2.45, 5.45, 8.25. Sep. Perfs. All seats bookable. No phone bookings.

PARIS PULLMAN, 5th Ken 373 5898
AGUIRRE, WRATH OF GOD (A). Closed Today.

PRINCE CHARLES, Leic. Sq. 437 8181
The Sensation of London
EMMANUELLE (X)
Sep. Perfs. Dly. (Inc. Sun.) 2.45, 6.15, 9.00. Late Show 11.45. Every Night. Exc. Dec. 24. Seats bkble.—Lit'd Bar. Closed Xmas Day.

RITZ, Leicester Sq. 437 1234.
CHINATOWN (X). Progs. Daily 2.30, 5.20, 8.10.

STUDIO ONE, Oxford Circus. 437 3300. Walt Disney's SNOW WHITE AND THE SEVEN DWARFS (U). Progs. Today 1.45, 4.00, 6.15 only.

SCENE 1, Leics. Sq. (Wardour St.) 439 4470. William Friedkin's THE EXORCIST (X). Directed by William Friedkin. Sep. Perfs. Dly. 12.30, 3.00, 5.15, 9.00. Late Show 11.30. Exc. Dec. 24. Box Office open daily 10-8. Sun. 12-8. Seats bkble. All Perfs. Closed Xmas Day.

UNIVERSAL, Lower Regent St. 930 8994. THE MIDNIGHT MAN (X). Progs. Wkdays 2.00, 4.05, 6.20, 8.45.

WARNER WEST END, Leicester Square. Tel. 439 0791. (Closed Christmas Day. Normal Progs. Boxing Day.)
1 Barbra Streisand, Ryan O'Neal WHAT'S UP DOC ? (U). Cont. Progs. Wk. 2.05, 4.10, 6.20, 8.30.
2 Peter Finch, Liv Ullmann THE ADDICATION (AA). Sep. Perfs. All Seats bkble. 3.35, 6.45, 8.45.
3 Federico Fellini's AMARCORD (X). Sep. Perfs. All seats bkble. 2.30, 5.30, 8.30.

ART EXHIBITIONS

CRANE KALMAN GALLERY
178 Brompton Road, London, S.W.3
BRITISH PAINTINGS
Matthew Smith, L. S. Lowry, Christopher Wood, Ben Nicholson, Ivon Hitchens, Duncan Grant, Graham Sutherland, etc.
Until 11th January
Daily 10-6. Sats 10-4. 584 7366.

GALLERY 21
138 Grafton St., W.1. 01-493 6232.
SELECTION 1974 including works by Borberski, Clave, Miro, Picasso and Tapies until 31 January. Mon.-Fri. 10-5.30; Sats. 10-1.00.

GIMPEL FILS, 30 Davies St., W.1. 493 2368. Closed for Christmas. ANCIENT AND MODERN re-opens Jan. 6.

GRAVES ART GALLERY, SHEFFIELD
JOHN ARNTON
PAINTINGS & DRAWINGS
Daily 10-8. Sun. 2-6.

HAYWARD GALLERY (Arts Council) South Bank, S.E.1. BRITISH SPORTING PAINTINGS 1650-1850 and PAUL KLEE: THE LAST YEARS 12 Dec.-26 Feb., 1975. Mon.-Fri. 10-8. Sat. 10-6. Sun. 12-6 Closed 24, 25, 26 Dec. and 1 Jan. 50p admits to both exhibitions. 10p all day Mon. and 6-8 Tues. to Fri. Children, students and OAPs 25p.

MARLBOROUGH GRAPHICS LTD., 17-18 Old Bond Street, W.1. Closed Dec. 24-30. Will reopen Jan. 6 at 6 Albemarle Street, W.1. Business by appointment. Jan 2-4 please tel. 629 5161.

MARLBOROUGH, 6, Albemarle St., W.1. EDWARD SEAGO Memorial Loan Exhibition, until 3 January, 1975. Mon.-Fri., 10-5.30. Sats., 10-12.30. Adm. free. Illustrated catalogue 22 post free. Closed over Xmas from midday Tues., 24th Dec., until Mon. 30th Dec.

MAYOR GALLERY, 14 South Molton Street, W.1. Closed until Jan. 5th. Opens Jan. 6th. ANATOL ROSENQUIST. Paintings 1961-74.

NATIONAL GALLERY
SCHOOL'S OUT
ART ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN
Fri., 3-14 Jan. Sat., at 11.00, 14.00, 16.00. Sun. at 14.15 & 16.00, until Jan. 17. Adm. free.

"NUDE OR NAKED IN 1974". Nicholas Treadwell Gallery, Chiltern St., W.1. 486 1414.

O'NEILL GALLERIES, 40 Albemarle Street, Piccadilly, W.1. GREAT END-OF-YEAR OF FINE MARINE AND MODERN PAINTINGS at REALISTIC PRICES. Unique opportunity to acquire fine works of art at a very modest outlay.

RANGER'S HOUSE (G.L.C.), Chesterfield Walk, Blackheath, S.E.10. 10-1 fee. Sun. Admission free. THE SUFFOLK COLLECTION, INAUGURAL EXHIBITION, THE SUFFOLK COLLECTION: ELIZABETHAN, JACOBEAN and LATER PORTRAITS.

ROLAND BROWSE & DELBANCO
19 Cork St., W.1. 01-734 7984
ECCLESIASTICAL & DOMESTIC SCULPTURE
Ulrich Hanu
Mon.-Fri., 10-5.30. Sats., 10-1. until 23 Dec.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS, TURNER 1775-1851. Organized jointly by the Tate Gallery and Royal Academy of Arts. 10-6 seven days a week. Closed 24, 25 and 26 December. Adm. 80p. (Mondays 40p) Season tickets £2. Students and pensioners half price. Adm. free on Mondays in December.

SABIN GALLERY, 4 Cork St., W.1. "Early English Watercolours as Christmas Presents" mainly under £60. Dec. 3-24. Daily 9.30-5.30. Sats. 10-12.30.

SERPENTINE GALLERY (Arts Council), Kensington Gardens, W.2. ART AS THOUGHT PROCESS. 14 Dec.-12 Jan., 1975. 10-4 daily. Closed 25-29 Dec. incl. and 1 Jan. Admission free.

BODYBOX Exhibition and Workshop. VICTORIA AND ALBERT MUSEUM, S.W.7. Wkdys. 10.00-18.00. Suns. 14.30-18.00. Closed 24, 25, 26 Dec and 1 Jan.

WINSLOW HOMER: watercolours and drawings. VICTORIA AND ALBERT MUSEUM, S.W.7. Adm. 20p. Closed 24th, 25th, 26th Dec. and 1st Jan.

EXHIBITIONS

SPINK closes today EXHIBITION OF CANDLESTICKS. 9.30-5.00. King Street, St. James's, S.W.1.

Find a buyer in The Times

Ring 01-837 3311

The National Theatre at the Old Vic 928 7616
Tonight 7.30 Boxing Day 2.15 & 7.30
Peter Nichols' comedy
The Freeway
"Irene Handl is as gorgeously Irene Handl as ever" Financial Times
Last Performances

THE ARTS

Aspects of the playroom

Paul Overy

Childhood was an invention of the nineteenth century, just as adolescence is an invention of the twentieth. Before the last century children were treated as miniature adults. The first painting in *Children and the Toys in English Art* at the Bethnal Green Museum is of Lady Arabella Stuart dated 1577. The child, who was not yet two years old, is dressed exactly like a small grown up, as is the doll which she clutches in her hand.

The change in attitude was the result of the dramatic fall in child mortality in the nineteenth century. One reason why children were treated as adults from the beginning was that there was a strong possibility they would never become real adults. With improvements in medicine and hygiene, a much greater number of children survived and so a special state of childhood was recognized. Still, of course, a large number of children died. And it was the combination of these two factors that made the Victorian attitude towards children so often maudlin and sentimental. But it had its positive side, a tender awareness of the special quality of a child's imagination and the separateness of the child's world.

Most of the works in the exhibition are from the nineteenth century. This is partly because so many more have survived, but also because there were so many more. The exhibition, which is mainly of paintings and illustrations on loan, is supplemented by real toys from the museum's permanent collection, and continues until February 16.

Many of the Victorian paintings are sentimental, like Millais's notorious *Bubbles* or Feith's *The Sick Doll*, for these were intended mainly for doting adult consumption. The illustrations intended for children themselves, as Elizabeth Aslin points out in her catalogue introduction, were intended to "instruct and improve". Most of the pictures show relatively well off children at play in their nurseries, from Prince Albert's etching after a loving drawing by Queen Victoria of the Princess of Wales and Princess Victoria, downwards. There are a few pictures, however, like the Bristol artist Francis Danby's painting of country lads, *Boys Sailing a Little Boat*, which shows how less privileged children amused themselves.

There are only a few works from the twentieth century. The most recent is L. S. Lowry's *Child with Doll* of 1968, less mannered and more particular than Lowry's characteristic paintings. Also there is Stanley Spencer's portrait of his wife and younger daughter, *Hilda, Unity and Dolls* of 1937 and *The Paper Cap*, by William Nicholson. The model was his 10-year-old son, the future painter Ben Nicholson. It seems extraordinary that photographs have not been included too, considering the richness of child photography, both professional and the snapshots of amateurs. This would have given the exhibition an immediacy and punch it lacks.

Henry Moore Pelvic Arch, with visitor, at the V and A

The idea behind the Christmas show at the Victoria and Albert Museum, *Bodybox*, is that of the educational toy. Its aim is to instruct children about the way in which the human body is imaged and manipulated by the sculptor. The fairground atmosphere helps to de-mystify sculpture. For some reason sculpture has always attracted a mystique, the most recent being the fashionable idea that painting on a flat surface is outmoded and that only "sculpture" is avant-garde—"sculpture" being anything that *isn't* paint on a flat surface, from happenings to typewritten sheets of conceptual art.

Sculpture as identified in *Bodybox* is the traditional idea of a three-dimensional representation of the human body, although this is extended into the performance of real bodies and the participation of the young spectators themselves—which is the means of introduction used in the exhibition. There are empty plinths on which children can stand and make of themselves living sculptures as interesting and less affected than Gilbert and George. Polythene mirrors vibrate and shake and distort your image when you stand on the sensors. This is placed instructively next to a cast of Boccioni's huge striding figure in motion, *Unique Forms of Continuity in Space*, which translates the nineteenth-century photographic experiments in recording movement of Marley and Muybridge into three-dimensional form. The exhibition runs until January 26.

Art as Thought Process at the Serpentine until January 12 is one of those Arts Council touring exhibitions which normally never come to London, but which are often more intelligent and less showy than many of the Arts Council's big prestige ones. This has been organized by Michael Compton of the Tate Gallery. The title is a bit off-putting. In the style of the V and A he might have better called it *Brainbox*. For the Serpentine showing there has been added work by Mark Boyle, Bernard Cohen and Ian Stephenson.

Marcel Duchamp, whose ideas lie behind the work of many of the younger artists, said that he wanted "to put painting once again at the service of the mind". This is an admirable aim shared by many twentieth-century artists. But Duchamp's method of doing this has always struck me as sterile and cerebral, like his favourite game, chess: an extraordinarily skilful way of wasting time and intellectual energy. Artists like Malevich, Mondrian, Klee and Kandinsky also believed that art should be concerned with thinking, but they wanted to give to thought the vibrant flesh of paint. Kenneth Martin, who is having a retrospective at the Tate early next year, works in this tradition and his paintings and prints at the Serpentine use a language of colour and form with great clarity and simplicity.

Martin is now nearly 70; artists in their middle years like Malcolm Hughes and Bridget Riley seem able to work in styles which are variations of this method. But most younger artists do not seem to be able to, as if distrustful of the simplicity and clarity of the language. Hence, presumably, the falling back on meaningless verbal involution of the Art Language Group. Other artists, like Mark Lancaster, Tom Phillips and to a lesser extent Keith Milow seem to have reverted to a kind of formal pedantry. Only John Hilliard seems to combine a real visual sense with a lively intelligence. He uses photographic means, but his works have the flesh and bones one normally only associates with painting.

Mark Boyle's (1966) and Judy Clark's (1972) carefully tabulated body fluids seem to have little to do with thought. And Boyle's electro-encephalograph of "a man and a girl celebrating intercourse during a performance of event for Bodily Fluids and Functions at the Round House in 1967"—well I suppose you could call that kind of thought, but after seven years it merely seems dated. Boyle's exactly reproduced casts of the surface of beaches and city sites went better. Bernard Cohen's early painting where thought processes are represented as mental spaghetti looks laughably crude now, and his later works are prettily pretentious. Ian Stephenson's splutter of minute dots of paint, very carefully controlled, are more serious attempts to achieve "the dance of the intellect amidst paint".

Writing more masterly than ever

Rostropovich
Maltings, Snape

William Mann

When Mstislav Rostropovich arrived in Western Europe earlier this year, his first action was to drive to Aldeburgh and play Britten's third cello suite to the composer, who had not yet heard it. The public counterpart to this private ceremony took place on Saturday night, in the Maltings concert hall at Snape, where Rostropovich gave the first performance of the third suite during an unaccompanied cello recital.

The audience included Britten (his health evidently much improved) and at the end there were moving demonstrations of affection, as well as gratitude, not only between interpreter and composer, but involving everybody in the hall. This was no ordinary first performance. The Aldeburgh Festival regulars were welcoming their dear friend Rostropovich back into their midst after long absence, and giving thanks for Britten's restored health.

The new work is even more a suite than usual, since its nine movements follow one another uninterruptedly and are all characteristic variants on four Russian traditional themes (three folk songs and an old hymn) which are first heard unvaried only at the end. The characterization of the movements (eg March, Dialogue, Fugue) is so clear—no doubt Rostropovich gives at least as much to this as he got—that, with the movement-titles on one's lap, to follow the course at first hearing was no difficulty.

The musical invention is very rich, the cello writing even more masterly than before; the sleight-of-hand suggestion of fugal texture and the passionate build-up of the Passacaglia, brilliant and moving, while still overtly deriving from Bach's solo cello suites (as does the Barcarolle, almost allusively), seems to push Bach's methods to a particular extreme. The most extraordinary individual mov

Full Christmas viewing programmes

Alan Blyth and Michael Ratcliffe make their selections for the holidays

A lot of night music

The BBC's Savoy opera company assembled by Cedric Messina has for the third year running come up with a Christmas offering to warm the hearts of all but the most staid of G and S enthusiasts. Their *Yeoman of the Guard* on New Year's Day (BBC1) reminds us, under David Lloyd-Jones's sympathetic baton, what a glorious score his is, and John Gorrie's direction makes no false move, unless it be the unremitting sunlight around the too spick-and-span Tower.

Gorrie has updated it slightly to the seventeenth century, and drawn the upmost characterization from his accomplished cast without carricature or send up. The singing, as has happened before, pays Sullivan the compliment of treating him as a truly operatic composer. Valerie Masterson, with her fine Manon and Violetta behind her, puts real emotion into Elsie's attractive music and subtly partners David Hillman's cleverly equivocal Colonel Fairfax. Derek Hammond-Stroud's Jack Point manages to be at once amusing and affecting, and Denis Wicks as Wilfred Shadbolt reads perhaps even more into the Jailer's words than is there.

For the BBC tonight Brian Large has directed a not-too-sentimental version of that old Christmas standby. *Amahl and the Night Visitors* (BBC2) which has Menotti's seal of approval. There is a pleasingly natural performance of the title part by young Paul Maurel (his father sings one of the kings) whose style falls happily halfway between the choirboy and Wandsworth traditions of trebles. April Cantelo is appropriately worried as the boy's Mother. A real donkey and camel jar slightly against the obviously studio-made set, but the treatment of the miracle is highly imaginative. Nicholas Braithwaite conducts.

Also tonight Janet Baker joins André Previn, under John Culshaw's production, in what looks like an unhackneyed programme, and tomorrow Harlech has gathered together some real and adopted Welshman for the reenactment of a Victorian Christmas. In a lighter vein, on December 27, the BBC had the brilliant idea of harnessing together what are perhaps the two most enjoyable musical films of all time, *On the Town* and *Singin' in the Rain*. Kelly and Donen fans could hardly ask for more. But I shall make most certain to watch the special edition of *That's Life* on Saturday (BBC1), the most compulsively viewable series of the year.

Radio 3 offers escape from too much seasonal festivity with reminders of festivals earlier in the year. Summer glories are recalled on Christmas night with the City of London's all-star chamber-music concert, while the day before Bregenz's tribute to the Puccini family to mark the fiftieth anniversary of the composer's death, is followed soon by Aldeburgh's "Four Voices and Piano" programme, full of seldom-heard treasures. Then on December 27, Salzburg's *nonpareil* of *Cosi* is succeeded much later in the day by Piatigorsky's wonderful Chopin and Debussy with Barenboim, again from the City.

Alan Blyth

Spirits of Christmas present

Ghosts malignant and feeble; double doses of Gilbert and Sullivan, Dickensian extravaganza, Dana, the Circus, Joseph Cooper, Dr Who, Hope and Keen; remakes of *Born Free*, *The Secret Garden* and Menotti's *Amahl and the Night Visitors*; several attractive repeats, and more than 70 full-length feature films on show between December 21 and January 3, some of them masterpieces (*Henry V*, *Singin' in the Rain*, *Thirty-Nine Steps*, *A Night at the Opera*).

The supernatural season opened last night with two dramatizations, by John Bowen of M. R. James's *The Treasure of Abbot Thomas* (BBC 1) and by Julian Bond of *The Ferryman* by Kingsley Amis (Granada). Mr Amis had James much in mind when writing his own ghost story *The Green Man* and later claimed in a radio talk that he and his wife had been overtaken, James-fashion, by some of the events and characters in that book. He then admitted he was having us on and had merely been disguising a completely new Kingsley Amis story about a writer and his wife who are overtaken by . . *etc. The Ferryman*, Mr Bond's adaption of the talk/story, was full of nice irrelevant detail and nervous tension (Jeremy Brett played the writer, but slow to build and short on scalp-thrills until the scarifying climax itself which left one adequately disturbed to receive the real stuff 90 minutes later on BBC. Granada follow *The Ferryman* with *Poor Girl* (December 30), a ghost story by Elizabeth Taylor and in the New Year with that classic chiller of the London blitz, *The Demon Lover* by Elizabeth Bowen.

If you believe that ghosts should be either frightening or funny, then *The Canterville Ghost* (HTV, New Year's Eve) will only annoy you for it is neither. Most of Wilde's story comprises a narrative of slightly faded jokes in a style of Low Gothic camp suggesting an extra-terrestrial encounter between Peacock and Coward, neither at their best. Robin Miller has adopted much of this compromising material into soliloquies for the outraged spectre (David Niven) apparently declaiming into thin air. It remains wordy and whimsical, and none the better for being faintly but persistently modernized—this is not the Nineties—while Mr Niven is miscast. It is impossible to imagine him doing anything incompetently, as here required, let alone indulging dreams of a Symbolist Garden of Death 300 years after committing a horrible crime.

Both G and S offerings are excellently cast and sung, although like their near-contemporary *Canterville*, they can dangerously convey the impression they are taking place before a second, unseen and unheard, audience, not ourselves. The telly takes ill to big choruses and bustle, and much the most effective moments of *The Yeoman of the Guard* (BBC 1, New Year's Day), apart from those afforded by Eileen Diss's very pretty and seemingly enormous set, come from the patter songs, duets, trios and quartets of Act II, much of which is done straight to camera making us feel that it is, after all, permissible to be watching.

Tonight's *Trial by Jury* (Granada) is also generously designed, by Peter Phillips, with a lovely long corridor for the whole cast to skip and caper down to the *Bab*-manner born. Norma Burrowes is a devastatingly competitive Plaintiff, fighting the Defendant not merely for breach of promise, but also, and successfully, for possession of the melodic line in the *Puritani/Lucia* quartet. Charles Mackerras conducts, fast, but here allows the parody room to breathe.

The new *Amahl* tonight is the BBC's third, and first in colour, "recorded in the presence of the composer", which presumably denotes a blessing of some sort. It is excellent: the Mother is a plendid role for April Cantelo and Amahl is played by Paul Maurel, a lively and humorous boy. Another third production, and first in colour, is *The Secret Garden* (BBC1, New Year's Day) whose first episode suggests it will be quite as gripping as Frances Hodgson Burnett's tales of tough little girls in distress so uncannily are on the box. Also strongly recommended: *Captain Noah and His Floating Zoo* (Granada, Boxing Day afternoon), the Flanders/Horovitz pop cantata turned into an enchanting cartoon of the Flood by Brian Cosgrove.

Best repeats: James Mactaggart's *Alice Through the Looking Glass* (BBC 2, December 27); Kenneth Allsop's *The Wildlife of New York City* (BBC 1, December 29); Kroy and Ann Menuhin's *Valdes—Bay of Whales* (BBC 2, December 29); Betjeman and Mirzoeff's *Metro-land* (BBC 1, January 3); Robert Muller and Peter Wood's *The Song of Songs* (BBC 2, January 3).

Michael Ratcliffe

Today

Trial by Jury (ITV 10.20)

Are all the decorations up and the children battened down? Then relax with Gilbert and Sullivan (ITV 10.20), perhaps before the Mass of the Nativity from Rome (ITV 11.0) or Family Eucharist from Cheshire (BBC1 11.55). Alternatively Roy Hudd will recite Christmas Day in the Workhouse (BBC2 11.0). All that, however, is for the end of the day. Discerning viewers will abandon domestic affairs earlier to watch those Likely Lads (BBC1 7.45), and, if Aladdin with Peter Glaze as Widow Twankey does not transport you it will not be for the want of trying (BBC1 4.15).—L.B.

BBC 1

9.00 am, Mr Benn. 9.15, Boss Cat. 9.40, The Hope and Keen Scene. 10.05, The Languages of Animals, lecture by David Attenborough, Beware! Part 2. 10.35, Speed Buggy. 11.00, Roobarb. 11.05, Holiday Star Trek. 11.50, *A Summer Friendship*. 12.20, pm, News. 12.25, Pebble Mill Christmas. 12.50, The Black and White Christmas Show. 1.35, Film: National Velvet (1945), with Elizabeth Taylor, Mickey Rooney, *Donald Crisp*. 3.35, *Diane Solomon*. 4.15, Aladdin, with Michael Aspel, Jacqueline Clarke, Dana, Peter Glaze, The Goodies, Barrie Gosney, Derek Griffiths, Deryck Guyler, Jan Hunt, Don Maclean, *Pan's People*, Ed Stewart, Richard Wattis.

5.15 News.
5.30 Tom and Jerry.
5.40 Film: *Kidnapped* (1960), with Peter Finch, James MacArthur.
7.10 Dick Emery.
7.45 The Likely Lads, special Christmas edition.
8.30 *Film: Ice Station Zebra* (1968), with Rock Hudson.
10.50 News.
11.00 André Previn's Christmas Music Night.
11.55-1.00 am The Message of the Angels: Family Eucharist from St Peter's, Hale, Cheshire.

Regional variations (BBC 1): BBC WALES: 9.15-9.40 am, Teliffant. 5.30-5.35 pm, Wales Today. 5.35-5.40, Newyddion. 11.00-11.30, Pobol y Cwm. 11.30-11.55, The Welcome of Wales. SCOTLAND: 5.30-5.40 pm, Scottish News. NORTHERN IRELAND: 5.30-5.40 pm, Northern Ireland News. 1.00 am, Northern Ireland News Headlines.

BBC 2

11.00-11.25 am, Play School.
5.30 Tchaikovsky Night: Bernard Haitink conducts London Philharmonic Orchestra.
6.20 News.
6.25 Oh Happy Day, documentary.
7.00 The Flat—1974, highlights of the 1974 flat racing season.
7.49 Amahl and the Night Visitors, Christmas opera by Gian-Carlo Menotti.
8.30 The Best of Not Only . . . But Also.
9.10 Getaway: The Golden Girls of Garie Beach.
10.05 The Old Grey Whistle Test.
11.00-11.20 Poor Christmas, with Roy Hudd.

HTV

9.55 am, Sesame Street. 10.50, Tabitha and *Adam and The Clown Family*. 11.35, Silent Flight. 12.00, Thames. 5.10 pm, Fable. 5.15, Help! 5.25, Crossroads. 5.50, News. 6.01, Report West. 6.14, Report Wales. 6.20, The Dickens of a Christmas. 7.00, Thames. 12.20 am, Weather. HTV CYMRU/WALES: As HTV except: 4.30-4.45 pm, Miri Mawr. 4.45-5.25, Miri Mawr. 5.25-5.15, Rainbow Country. 6.01-6.14, Y Dydd. 10.20-11.00, Dan Sylw. HTV WEST: As HTV except: 6.14-6.30 pm, Report West.

Westward

10.35 am, The Houndcats. 11.00, The Flovers. 11.30, Silent Flight. 12.00, Thames. 1.12 pm, Westward News Headlines. 1.15, Thames. 6.00, Westward Diary. 6.35-12.20 am, Thames.

Border

9.25 am, European Ice Skating Championships 1974. 10.20, The Lone Ranger. 10.50, Animated Classics: A Christmas Carol. 11.30, Silent Flight. 12.00, Thames. 6.00 pm, Border News. 6.35-12.20 am, Thames.

Thames

9.30 am, The Forgotten Pioneer. 9.55, The Ugly Duckling. 10.15, Film: Follow That Dream, with Elvis Presley. 12.00, Hickory House. 12.15 pm, Rod Hull and Emu. 12.30, Charles Dickens's World of Christmas. 1.00, News. 1.15, Hark Now Hear the Angels Sing. 1.45, Look Who's Talking. 2.45, Film: The Three Worlds of Gulliver, with Kerwin Mathews, Jo Morrow, June Thorburn. 4.30, Magpie Christmas Special. 5.15, The Little Match Girl.
5.50 News.
6.00 The Dickens of a Christmas, with Joe Melia, Gerald Harper.
6.35 Crossroads.
7.00 Val Doonican.
7.30 Film: The Gypsy Moths, with Burt Lancaster, Deborah Kerr, Gene Hackman.
9.30 Play: Markheim, with Derek Jacobi, Julian Glover, Paul Curran.
10.00 News.
10.20 Trial by Jury, by Gilbert and Sullivan.
11.00-12.20 am, The Mass of the Nativity, from the Basilica of St. Peter, Rome.

Yorkshire

9.00 am, A Christmas Story. 9.25, European Skating Gala. 10.20, Gideon West. Burt Ward. 11.30, Silent Flight. 12.00, Thames. 6.00 pm, Calendar. 6.35-12.20 am, Thames.

Granada

9.30 am, Thunderbirds. 10.15, Christmas Story. 10.35, Film: The Ghost Train, with Arthur Askey, Richard Murdoch, Kathleen Harrison. 12.00, Thames. 6.00, Granada Reports. 6.30, Ouch! 7.00-12.20 am, Thames.

ATV

9.30 am, Tinsel. 12.00, Thames. 6.00, ATV Today. 6.35-12.20 am, Thames.

Southern

10.00 am, Hammy Hamster. 10.15, Our Asian Neighbours: Thailand. 10.35, Thunderbirds. 11.25, Silent Flight. 11.55, Southern News. 12.00, Thames. 2.45, Houseparty. 3.05, Animated Classics: Treasure Island. 3.35, The Little Match Girl. 4.30, Thames. 5.15, Spotlight Junior. 5.25, Crossroads. 5.50, News. 6.00, Day by Day. 6.30, Celebrity Challenge. 7.00, Thames. 12.20 am, Weather.

Grampian

10.30 am, Lassie (Classic): A Christmas Carol. 11.25, Silent Flight. 12.00, Thames. 6.00 pm, Grampian News. 6.05, Sandy Duncan. 6.35, Thames. 11.00-12.00, Watchnight Service.

Scottish

10.30 am, Film: The Nebraskan, with Phil Carey, Roberta Haynes, Wallace Ford, Lee Van Cleef. 11.35, Silent Flight. 12.00, Thames. 6.00 pm, Scotland Today. 6.25, Thames. 11.00-12.05 am, Watchnight Service.

Ulster

10.15 am, Film: The Lions are Free. 11.10, Partner Room. 11.30, Silent Flight. 12.00, Thames. 6.00 pm, UTV Reports. 6.35-12.20 am, Thames.

Anglia

9.30 am, Film: Batman, with Adam West, Burt Ward. 11.30, Silent Flight. 12.00, Thames. 6.00 pm, About Anglia. 6.35-12.20 am, Thames.

Tyne Tees

8.55 am, Starting Point. 9.00, A Christmas Story. 9.25, European Ice Skating Championships. 10.20, Film, Gideon West, Burt Ward. 11.05, Captain Scarlet. 11.30, Silent Flight. 12.00, Thames. 6.00, Today. 6.35-12.35, Thames. 12.25, Close Down.

Radio

1
5.00 am, News. Simon Bates. 7.00, Noel Edmonds. 9.00, Tony Blackburn. 12.00, Johnnie Walker. 2.00 pm, David Hamilton. 5.00, Alan Freeman. 7.02, Radio 1 Party. 9.00, John Peel. 12.00, News. 12.05 am, Night Ride.
2.00, News.
Stereo.

2
5.00 am, Radio 1. 7.02, Terry Wogan. 9.02, Pete Murray. 10.30, Waggoners' Walk. 11.30, Jimmy Young. 1.45 pm, Ricochet. 2.02, Tony Brandon. 4.15, Waggoners' Walk. 4.30, Joe Henderson. 6.02, Sam Costa. 7.02, Hubert Gregg. 7.30, Carols at the Dome. 8.02, Have Yourself a Swinging Christmas. 9.02, Holiday in Disneyland. 10.02, Hannah Gordon. 12.00-2.02 am, Radio 1.

3
7.00 am, News. 7.05, Handel, Arne, Holst, Vaughan Williams. 8.00, News. 8.05, Haydn, Dohnanyi, Kodaly. 9.00, News. 9.05, Berlioz. 10.05, G.B.S. On Music: entertainment. 11.20, Carols for Spain. 12.10, Junior Midday Prom: Eric Fenby, Tchaikovsky, Grace Williams. 1.00 pm, News. 1.05, The Arts World-wide. 1.20, Concert: part 2, Keith Bissell, Haydn. 2.05, Bregenz Festival 1974: music by the Puccini family. 3.35, Piano recital: Debussy, Weber. 4.55, Jazz Today. 5.25, Pied Piper. 5.45, Aldeburgh Festival 1974 (four voices and piano): Haydn, Mozart, Schumann. 6.30, The Practical Romantic: personal view of Shelley. 6.45, Concert: part 2, Britten.
7.30, BBC Symphony Orchestra: Mussorgsky, Strauss. 8.10, Music Over International Lake. 8.30, Concert: part 2, Tchaikovsky. 9.10, The Arts World-wide. 9.40, Expedition to Bethlehem: an essay. 10.10, Music for Christmas: Three medieval English carols, Byrd, Maxwell Davies, Weelkes, Dunstable. 11.00, Reading. 11.05, Music for Christmas: part 2, Horovitz, Mechelen, Messiaen, Britten. 11.55-12.00, News.

4
6.40 am, Prayer. 6.45, Travel News. 6.53, Weather. 7.00, News. 7.25, Sportsweek. 7.35, Today's Papers. 7.45, Thought for the Day. 7.50, Travel News. 7.55, Weather. 8.00, News. 8.25, Sportsweek. 8.35, Today's Papers. 8.45, Pet Owl Store Flaps, by Evelyn Smith. 8.50, News. 8.55, Travel Call 01-580 4411: I'll meet you for the Christmas when . . . 10.00, News. 10.05, From Our Own Correspondent. 10.50, Service. 10.45, Story. 11.00, News. 11.05, Down Your Way. 11.45, John Ebdon. 12.00, News. 12.02 pm, You and Yours. 12.27, Dr Finlay's Casebook. 12.55, Weather. 1.00, The World at One. 1.30, The Archers. 1.45, Woman's Hour. 2.45, Listen with Mother. 3.00, News. 3.05, A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols in King's College Chapel, Cambridge. 4.35, A Victorian Christmas at Dingley Dell. 5.00, Pet Reports. 5.55, Weather. 6.00, News. 6.13, Six Word. 6.45, The Archers. 7.00, News Desk. 7.30, And There We Create Wonders, Donald Swann. 8.30, Aldeburgh Bond the World. 9.15, La Bohème, excerpts from Puccini's opera. 9.50, Weather. 10.00, The World Tonight. 10.45, A Book at Bedtime: Shepherd on the Hill, the Hungry Prince and The Selfish Giant, Eva Leigh-Hughes. 11.30, News. 11.42, Inshore Forecast. 11.45-1.00 am, Midnight Mass at Our Nativity from St Chad's Roman Catholic Church, South Hill, Chertsey.
BBC Radio London, local and national news, entertainment, sport, music. 94.9 VHF, 206 M.
London Broadcasting, 24-hour news and information station. 97.3 VHF, 417 M.
Capital Radio, 24-hour music, news and features station. 95.8 VHF, 337 M.

Christmas Day

Hail smiling morn with carols from York (ITV 8.45 am) or Canterbury (BBC1 8.45 am) and a Christmas morning service from Sandringham (ITV 10.0 am) or Loch Lomond (BBC1 10.30 am). In the afternoon the Queen addresses the Commonwealth (BBC1, BBC2 and ITV 3.0). Such are the fixed points of the day. Around them spill the fun and games. Do you want something to roll you in the aisle? Michael Crawford mixed up in a nativity play should do just that (BBC1 7.15) while Tommy Cooper (ITV 6.15) and Mike Yarwood (BBC1 8.5) offer their characteristic humour. But for something different in the laughter line try Ronnie Barker's Futtock's End where he is joined by Michael Hordern and Roger Livesey and nobody says a word (BBC2 8.45).
The ration of celluloid includes that Bridge with Alec Guinness (BBC1 8.45) while John Wayne does a double stint in the Wild West (BBC1 4.5) and the Civil War (ITV 7.50).—L.B.

John Wayne (BBC1 4.5) (ITV 7.50)

BBC 1

8.45 am, Carols from Canterbury. 9.25, Camberwick Green. 9.40, Cartoons. 10.25, Appeal: National Deaf Children's Society. 10.30, Christmas Morning Service from Killearn Kirk. 11.25, *A Stocking Full of Stars* from National Children's Home, Harpenden. 12.25 pm, Film: Way Out West (1937), with Laurel and Hardy.* 1.25, Holiday on Ice. 2.15, Top of the Pops. 3.00, The Queen speaks to the Commonwealth. 3.05, Billy Smart's Christmas Circus. 4.05, Film: True Grit (1969), with John Wayne.
6.10 News.
6.15 Bruce Forsyth and the Generation Game.
7.15 Some Mothers Do 'Ave 'Em.
8.05 Mike Yarwood.
8.45 Film: Bridge on the River Kwai (1957), with William Holden, Alec Guinness, Jack Hawkins.
11.20 News.
11.25-12.20 am, Parkinson Takes a Look at Morecambe and Wise.
* Black and white.

Regional variations (BBC 1): BBC WALES: 9.25-9.40 am, Ol Mor Drwm. 12.25-1.05 pm, Ryan Davies. 1.05-1.55, Laurel and Hardy: Dirty Work. SCOTLAND: 10.25-10.30 am, Appeal: Royal National Mission to Deep Sea Fishermen.

BBC 2

11.00-11.30 am, Play School. 2.55 pm, To You and All Mankind. 3.00, The Guns. 3.05, Golf '74: discussion. 4.05, La Traviata, with Elizabeth Harwood, Norman Bailey, John Brecknock.
6.10 Film: Henry V (1944), with Laurence Olivier, Robert Newton, Leslie Banks, Renee Asherson, Esmond Knight.
8.25 Evel Knievel.
8.45 Film: Futtock's End (1970), with Michael Hordern, Ronnie Barker, Roger Livesey.
9.30 News.
9.35 Face the Music.
10.20-11.05 When the Angels

Thames

8.45 am, Carols in Kirkgate, from the Castle Museum, York. 9.20, A Story from the Bible. 9.30, Sooty's Christmas Party. 10.00, Service from Sandringham Parish Church, Norfolk. 11.00, *A Merry Morning*. 11.30, Film: Captain Nemo and the Underwater City, with Robert Ryan, Chuck Connors, Nanette Newman, Luciana Paluzzi. 1.15 pm, Christmas Rock with 45. 2.00, David Nixon's Christmas Magic. 3.00, The Queen speaks to the Commonwealth. 3.05, Film: Those Magnificent Men In Their Flying Machines, with Sarah Miles, James Fox, Terry-Thomas, Stuart Whitman, Benny Hill, Tony Hancock, Robert Morley, Red Skelton, Gert Frobe.
5.35 News.
5.45 *Meet Peters and Lee*.
6.15 Tommy Cooper.
7.15 This Is Your Life.
7.50 Film: The Undefeated, with John Wayne, Rock Hudson.
10.00 News.
10.15 Private Lives.
10.45 For This Christmas Only, with Sir Geraint Evans, Spike Milligan, Dame Flora Robson, Rachel Roberts, Kiri te Kanawa, Ryland Davies.
11.45 What Was He Like?

HTV

8.45 am, Thames. 11.45, Orson Welles Great Mysteries. 12.10 am, Weather. HTV CYMRU/WALES.—As HTV except: 11.00-11.38 am, Cyd Balam Bach. 1.15 pm, Miri Mawr. 1.30, Miri Mwy. 1.40-2.00, Cartoons.

Westward

8.40 am, Faith for Life. 8.45, Thames. 1.10 pm, Gus Honeybun. 1.15, Thames. 11.45, Faith for Life.

Granada

8.45 am, Thames. 11.45 pm-12.10 am, Alfred Hitchcock Presents: Back for Christmas.*

ATV

8.45 am-11.45 pm, Thames.

Southern

8.45 am, Thames. 11.45 pm, Weather, Guidelines.

Anglia

8.45 am, Thames. 11.45 pm, A Carol for Christmas Night.

Tyne Tees

8.40 am, Starting Point. 8.45, Thames. 11.45, The Voice in the Fingers, the Great Highland Bagpipe. 12.40, A Message for Christmas, from the Bishop of Newcastle.

Yorkshire

8.45 am-11.45 pm, Thames.

Scottish

8.45 am, Thames. 8.20, Moderator's Christmas Message. 9.30, Thames. 11.45 pm, Late Call. 11.47-11.53, The Mass of the Nativity from the Basilica of St Peter, Rome.

Ulster

9.00 am, Romper Room. 9.20, Thames. 11.45-11.55 am, The Party's Over.

Border

8.35 am, *Moderator's Christmas Message*. 8.45-11.45 pm, Thames.

Grampian

8.45 am, Thames. 9.20, Moderator's Christmas Message. 9.30, Thames. 11.45, *The Pope and the Holy Year*. 11.50, A Kind of Living. 12.20 am, Prayers.

Radio

1
5.00 am, News. Simon Bates. 7.02, Carols. 8.02, Ed Stewart. 9.30, The Queen speaks to the Commonwealth. 9.35, Ed Stewart, part 2. 10.00, Tony Blackburn. 1.00 pm, The Osmonds. 3.00, David Hamilton. 6.00, Jimmy Savile. 7.00 Radio 2.00, Review 74. 12.00, News. 12.05-5.0 am, Night Ride.
Stereo.

2
5.00 am, Radio 1. 10.02, Ray Cronin. 10.45, Charles Aznavour and Jacques Loussier Trio. 11.30, People's Service. 12.00, Appeal: Wireless for the Blind Fund. 12.03 pm, Family Favourites Special. 2.02, Hello Children. 3.30, Tony Brandon. 5.02, Sam Costa. 7.02, Five's Company. 9.02, Band Parade. 11.00, Christmas Night Ride. 12.00-5.00 am, Radio 1.

3
7.00 am, News. 7.05, Your Christmas Choice: Mozart, Massenet, Brahms, Ibert. 8.00, News. 8.05, Your Christmas Choice: Part 2, Dagnin, Faure, Britten, Elgar. 9.00, News. 9.05, *Berlioz: L'Enfance du Christ*. Part 1. 9.45, Robert Stephens as Berlioz: readings. 10.00, L'Enfance du Christ: Parts 2 and 3. 11.05, Violin recital: Yehudi Menuhin, Bach, Brahms. 12.10 pm, Concert: Mozart, Wagner, Mendelssohn. 1.00, The Queen speaks to the Commonwealth. 1.05, News. 1.10, Concert: Part 2, Dvorak. 1.50, Mozart, Beethoven. 2.50, A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols in King's College Chapel, Cambridge. 4.40, Strauss and Brahms. 5.30, Pied Piper. 5.50, Play: The Mystery, by Bill Naughton (winner of 1974 Italia Prize for Radio Drama). 6.40, A Class of His Own: Fritz Wunderlich. 7.40, Sir Orfeo: Medieval English version of the legend.
8.10, Bruckner: Symphony No. 7. 9.35, City of London Festival 1974: Mozart, Beethoven. 10.30, A conversation. 10.45, Festival: Part 3, Brahms. 11.35, Bach: Christmas Chorale Preludes from the Orgelbüchlein. 11.55-12.00, News.

4
7.50, Thought for the Day, Archbishop of Canterbury. 7.55, Weather. 8.00, News. 8.10, My Kind of Christmas Music: Robert Donnat. 8.55, Christmas Day Parade. 9.00, News. 9.05, Christmas Bells. 9.30, The Queen speaks to the Commonwealth. 9.35, Holy Communion from St Alban's Cathedral. 10.30, Christmas Morning, with David Jacobs. 12.55 pm, Weather. 1.00, The Queen speaks to the Commonwealth. News. 1.15, Dad's Army Special Christmas Edition. 2.15, The Archers. 2.30, Just a Minute. 3.00, Vice Versa: or A Lesson to Fathers. 4.30, And Then We Wrote . . . Alleluia! Flanders and Donald Swann. 5.30, At Home with Badgers. 5.55, Weather. 6.00, News. 6.10, Appeal: Wireless for the Blind Fund. 6.15, Political Line. 6.45, The Archers. 7.00, Tommy Stone at Christmas Time. 8.00, A Study in Scarlet, by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. 9.30, Benjamine Gleitzman. 10.00, News. 10.05, Kenneth Horne: Round the Horne and Back. 10.50, Elsie Smith. 11.00, Christmas Epilogue. 11.30-11.38, News. 11.51-11.54, Inshore forecast.
BBC Radio London, local and national news, entertainment, sport, music. 94.9 VHF, 206 M.
London Broadcasting, 24-hour news and information station. 97.3 VHF, 417 M.
Capital Radio, 24-hour music, news and features station. 95.8 VHF, 337 M.

Boxing Day

There is the reappearance of those rag-and-bone men (BBC1 9.5) and Danny La Rue, whose team includes Arthur Askey (ITV 9.0), while Kojak, that New York cop, has a field day (BBC1 9.55) and vociferously vigorous Leonard Sachs will characteristically chair his Good Old Days (BBC1 11.30). A man and a lynx in a Russian film offer something unusual (BBC2 4.50). Oh, and that alley cat dreams again. Don't miss him (BBC2 6.0). For the rest, BBC1 has a *sporting afternoon* (BBC1 12.0 onwards), while the cinema offers that well-tried racing car Chitty Chitty Bang Bang (BBC1 2.30) and some new international cartoons (BBC2 2.55) as well as a classic western, The Magnificent Seven (BBC1 7.0) and a prehistoric thriller (ITV 7.15).—L.B.

The Magnificent Seven (BBC1 7.0)

BBC 1

9.05 am, Barnaby. 9.15, Boss Cat. 9.40, Holiday Star Trek. 10.30, Film: Help! (1965), with The Beatles. 12.00, Boxing Day Grandstand. 12.05 pm, Football Focus. 12.15, Rugby: Leeds v Wakefield Trinity. 12.55, Motor Racing from Brands Hatch. 1.05, 1.40, 2.10, Racing from Kempton Park. 1.25, 1.55, Racing from Wincanton. 2.30, Film: Chitty Chitty Bang Bang (1968), with Dick Van Dyke, Sally Ann Howes. 4.50, The Sporting Superstars.
6.05 News.
6.15 Cilla.
7.00 Film: *The Magnificent Seven* (1960), with Yul Brynner, Eli Wallach, Steve McQueen, Horst Buchholz, Charles Bronson, Robert Vaughn, James Coburn.
9.05 Steptoe and Son.
9.45 News.
9.55 Film: The Chinatown Murders, with Telly Savalas, Michael Constantine, Sheree North, Robert Ito, Patrick Adiarte, Jesse Dixon.
11.30 The Good Old Days.
12.25 am, Weather.

Regional variations (BBC 1): BBC WALES.—9.15-9.40 am, Teliffant. NORTHERN IRELAND.—6.10-6.15 pm, News.

HTV

9.00 am, Thames. 12.00, Merrie Melodies. 12.20 pm, The Little Match Girl. 12.55, Thames. 11.25, Mahler Concert. 12.25, National Orchestra. 12.45 am, Weather. HTV CYMRU/WALES. As HTV except 2.00 pm, Miri Mawr. 2.15-2.35, Miri Mwy. 10.15, Dan Sylw. 11.05-11.25, O'r Wasg.

Westward

09.00 am, Thames. 12.50 pm, Gus Honeybun. 12.55, Thames. 11.25, Signs of the Times: 11.55, Faith for Life.

Anglia

9.00 am, Thames. 11.25, Paxton at the Five-O. 11.55, Orson Welles Great Mysteries.

BBC 2

11.0-11.25 am, Play School. 2.55 pm, Cartoon World: Zagreb 74. 3.50, Little Mermaid, from the story by Hans Andersen. 4.20, Look, Stranger: The World of Blaster Bates. 4.50, A Forest Tale: Friends for Life.
6.00 Scatsophrenia: an alley cat's dream.
6.10 Return to the River Kwai.
7.00 Lord Peter Wimsey: Murder Must Advertise, by Dorothy L. Sayers, Part 2.
8.30 I've Cracked It: a study in puzzles.
9.00 A Christmas Box from Joseph Cooper.
10.00 The Moon Shines Bright on Charlie Chaplin.
10.50 News.
10.55-11.25, Test Cricket from Australia by satellite.

ATV

8.30 am, The Partridge Family. 9.00, Thames. 11.25-12.25 am, Illpide.

Southern

9.00 am, Thames. 11.25 pm, Tom Paxton at the Colston Hall. 11.55, Weather, Guidelines.

Granada

8.45 am, Cartoons. 9.00, Thames. 11.25-12.40 am, Maria Marten, or The Murder in the Red Barn.*

Yorkshire

9.00 am, Thames. 11.25 pm-12.25 am, Corridor 400, with Susanna Pleshette.

Border

9.00 am, Thames. 11.25-11.50 pm, Paxton at the Colston.

Grampian

9.00 am, Thames. 11.25 pm, The Persuaders. 12.15 am, Prayers.

Tyne Tees

8.45 am, Starting Point. 8.50, Cartoon. 9.00, Thames. 11.25, Paxton at the Colston. 12.25, Close Down.

Thames

9.00 am, On the Twelfth Day. 9.20, The Man Called Flintstone. 10.45, The Blind Horn's Hate. 11.10, Christmas Clapperboard. 11.40, Rainbow. 12.00, Born Free Premiere, with Gary Collins, Diana Muldaur and Elsa the Lioness. 12.55 pm, News. 1.00, Chipperfield's Christmas Circus. 2.00, Captain Noah and His Floating Zoo. 2.30, Film: The Great Race, with Tony Curtis, Jack Lemmon, Natalie Wood, Peter Falk, Keenan Wynn, Dorothy Provine. 5.15, The Golden Shot. 6.15 News.
6.30 Whodunnit? Jon Pertwee with Wendy Craig, Patrick Mower, Derek Nimmo, Leslie Crowther in A Piece of Cake.
7.15 Film: The Valley of Gwangi, with James Franciscus, Gila Golan, Richard Carlson.
9.00 Tonight with Danny La Rue.
10.00 News.
10.15 *Heroes of our Time?*
11.25 Night Gallery: Miss Lovecraft Sent Me, with Sue Lyon, Joseph Campanella.
11.50 What Was He Like?

Scottish

9.00 am, Thames. 11.25 pm, Late Call. 11.30-12.00, Adam 12.

Ulster

9.00 am, Thames. 6.13 pm, Ulster News Headlines. 6.15, Thames. 11.25. 11.55, What's It All About?

Radio

1
5.00 am, News. Simon Bates. 8.02, Cricket: Third Test. 8.04, Ed Stewart. 10.00, Noel Edmonds. 1.00 pm, Eric Idle Presents Radio 2. 2.00, Johnnie Walker. 3.00, Ed Stewart's Glitter Party. 7.00, Dave Lee Travis. 10.00, John Peel. 12.00, News. 12.05-5.00 am, Night Ride.
Stereo.

2
5.00 am, Radio 1. 10.02, Pete Murray. 12.02 pm, Jimmy Young. 2.02, 5.55, Sport. 1500m only. Incidental Football: Racing at Kempton: Cricket: Third Test: 3.00, Sporting Chance: and Sports Report. 6.02, Sing Along Party Time. 7.02, A Question of Fun. 7.30, The Spinners. 8.02, Take Your Partners. 10.02, John Dunn. 12.00-5.00 am, Radio 1.

3
6.00 am, Cricket: Third Test. 7.00, News. 7.05, Beethoven, Pesko, Wolf. 8.00, News. 8.05, Tchaikovsky, Stravinsky. 9.00, News. 9.05, Berlioz. 10.00, Concert: John Wolfe, Gustav Holst. 10.50, Words. 10.55, Concert: Part 2, Warlock, Delius, Holst. 11.35, Violin and Piano: Faure and Debussy. 12.15 pm, Concert: Borodin, Sibelius. 1.00 pm, News. 1.05, Concert: part 2, Tchaikovsky. 1.50, Good Listening. 10.00, Concert: John Wolfe, Gustav Holst. 10.50, Words. 10.55, Concert: Part 2, Warlock, Delius, Holst. 11.35, Violin and Piano: Faure and Debussy. 12.15 pm, Concert: Borodin, Sibelius. 1.00 pm, News. 1.05, Concert: part 2, Tchaikovsky. 1.50, Good Listening: Lionel Hampton. 2.50, A Night in Venice, comic opera by Johann Strauss. 4.40, Ronald Turbig (piano): Schubert, Rachmaninov. 5.25, Pied Piper. 5.45, Music Now: Norman Lloyd. 6.45, Recital: Schubert, Wolf. 7.25, Broadcasting. 8.35, Recital: part 2, Schubert, Wolf, Strauss, Mahler. 9.10, When So Voices Die. 7.35, Scottish National Orchestra: Beethoven, Sibelius. 9.15, The Big Name of Silence: verse play. 9.45, Cello and Piano: Martinu, Prokofiev. 10.20, Montecarlo Vespro della Beata Vergine. 11.35-12.00, News.

4
6.40 am, Prayer. 6.45, Keep Fit. 6.50, Weather. 7.00, News. 7.25, Sportsweek. 7.35, Thought for the Day. 7.55, Weather. 8.00, News. 8.25, Sportsweek. 8.35, Today's Papers. 8.45, Pet Owl Store Flaps, by Evelyn Smith. 8.50, News. 8.55, Travel Weather. 9.00, News. 9.05, Richard Baker. 10.00, News. 10.05, Mynorkey Tom, Clue Clogg. 10.30, Service. 10.45, Story. 11.00, News. 11.02, Tuesday Special at Christmas Time. 12.00, News. 12.02 pm, You and Yours. 12.27, My Word. 12.55, Weather. 1.00, The World at One. 1.30, The Archers. 1.45, Woman's Hour. 2.45, Listen with Mother. 3.05, Play: And the Seventh Day, with Carleton Hobbs. 4.00, News. 4.05, My Kind of Christmas Music: Robert Donnat. 5.0, Pet Reports. 5.55, Weather. 6.00, News. 6.15, Dr Finlay's Casebook. 6.45, The Archers. 7.00, News Desk. 7.30, Dad's Army Special Christmas Edition. 8.30, The Jolly Silver: fairy tale with music.

هكذا من الأصل

Fashion

by Prudence Glynn

Out of season clothes for the winter traveller.

Centre: Long, sleeveless cotton dress in a Liberty Print, with 4 pleats at the front of the skirt, narrow straps and square neck, under a plain cotton bolero. Called "Chilton Rhodes" by Jeff Banks. Price: £95, from an exclusive selection at his shop, 27, Duke Street, London, W1.

Far left: Button through polyester satin housegown by David Nieper. Style 895. Sizes WMS and WX both approx £26. Colours white, pink and silver, from Harrods housecoat department, Rackhams of Birmingham, and other good stores.

Left: White and blue rayon and lurex lacey poncho with matching ankle length skirt and long scarf. Designed and knitted by Esther Pearson. For details please contact her at Stroud Green Road, London N4. Tel.: 01-263 1482.

Photographs by Peter Akehurst.

What would Actors Equity have to say?

am not a socially competitive arent. Indeed, to so fine an 't have I got the delegation the hospitable niceties that hen I happened to answer the oor bell the other day I was mazed to hear from a stranger n the steps that she had come collect her child who had een having tea with us. I tried course to look as though I new all about it, but the sitution was not enhanced by the ct that the only reason I was at all was because I was in e middle of nailing strips of ebbing across the seat of the awing room sofa which had tely fallen through. This all emed too complicated to exain to the visitor and anyway r sofa, unmasked from its pp cover, is not a pretty ght, so I left her in the hall hile I went belowstairs to find t if indeed we had an extra ild around. We had, but when is mam led him away someing in her expression sugested that further invitations a house where the door was pened by someone currying a mmer who patently had no lea of the precious responsiility having tea with her and ho further left her visitors in e hall might not be thought mart.

However, when it comes to ll scale entertainment I can ake an effort to be original. ince everyone round us goes the same parties they get rough a fair number of ugglers and entertainers and lm shows and bossy middle ged lady party organizers in a ear, so finding something hich the children have not een before, which is suitable, nd which you can afford is a oser. I cast my mint about, r rather I cast my eyes about magazine called *The Stage*. any reading more pognant? hen the stardust turns to sawust, when the name in lights is ever yours, then you ake a ttle ad in *The Stage*. Kings of e Clarinet, Princes of aughter, Novelty Juggling ntertainers, Yodelling and inging Accordionists, people ith their Own Organ, all make elieve life is there. You can ave roller skaters or fire wallowers, or stunt bicyclists areering round your sitting oom, which may be why lots of he acts have "audience participation" in small type at the ottom, so that if they land by istake n someone's lap they an say it was all part of the lan.

Most of the entertainments ffered were quite unsuitable ven for the modern child, but ucked in among Mr and Mrs ntertainment, and Mr Variety, nd the belly dancers was a ittle dog who did tricks. For an udience of eight year olds, what etter. I telephoned her agent. Having selected an animal act was then filled with doubt bout the morality of training easts to peform. All sorts of ruel stories came into my mind —had not Colette been sickened y the cruelty of the circus, who as the French magician whose est trick depended on the audince's humane assumption that he little birds he used survived he performance? They did not. Nightly they were crushed to death and replaced next day for a few sous in the market. However, I told myself that since the English are invariably kinder to their animals than to each other I could not be fostering a foul trade. When I booked my dog act the owner certainly did not sound the sort to use an electric goad. As a matter of fact, he did tell my husband that the training time could be cut in half if you used a stick (which naturally he had not) but luckily I did not hear this till it was all over and the star's mini-apparatus stowed in her modest transport.

It was when I was discussing the finer arrangements for the party that I became aware of a piercing lambent gaze on my back and turned round to find our cat listening to every word. His later life had been irradidiated by a romance of epic proportions with the very person I was talking to, and what with being loyal to me too and acting as the perfect major domo to the household he found life pretty tiring and needed 22 hour's sleep a day. However, his sense of when to be awake was uncanny, and so there he was, staring at us in outrage with "DOG-Vulgar Tricks—In My *House*" written all over his face. Hastily we explained that it was just a small dog, a dog with people to keep, a dog who had to work for her living. Somewhat mollified he padded out and could be seen under the hydrangeas boasting to his friends that you would never catch him jumping through hoops for a livelihood.

At noon prompt on the day of the party he took up a position in the front row of the stalls, eyes slitted with suspicion. But his nerve was not what it was, and after weaving dizzily about among the plates holding the birthday tea (I thought he had licked the chocolate buns, but the rough-cast texture on the icing turned out to be cocoa, not tongue-marks) he retired upstairs. At 12.30 the Star's owner telephoned to ask if we had a carpet. It turned out that he was not concerned with the quality of our Aubussons if any, but merely anxious that his dog should not break her neck on the parquet. At four o'clock Mr and Mrs Owner appeared with a large and rather cowed looking black and white sheepdog type dog and were hustled in unseen. Mrs Owner said where could she change? Change? Great Heavens, surely she was not going to get into spangles and a tu-tu? But, no, it was a neat dress. The star's cowed look turned out to be nothing but pre-performance nerves—she was as strung up as a high-wire act when we thrust her and Mr Owner into the gents' cloakroom while we loosed the children into the drawing room. Then we were away, with a real hit on our hands.

And puss? While the dog sprinted gamely round the Blüthner below, keeping her friends in limelight and hairdye Oscar, normally the most gregarious character snored upstairs wearing the expression of a cat who has had a canary or two in his time. He never looked to see that we were doing everything properly, he never put a whisker round the door. But next morning he went out very early and beat the daylights out of his harmless and deferential ginger pal from across the road.

Issued at the request of Gold Fields of South Africa Limited and Union Corporation Limited by Hill Samuel & Co. Limited, Hambros Bank Limited and Barclays National Merchant Bank Limited

TO THE SHAREHOLDERS OF UNION CORPORATION LIMITED

RECOMMENDED OFFER

BY

GOLD FIELDS OF SOUTH AFRICA LIMITED
("GFSA")
(Incorporated in the Republic of South Africa)

FOR

UNION CORPORATION LIMITED
("UNICORP")
(Incorporated in the Republic of South Africa)

The Boards of GFSA and Unicorp announce that the Offer Document incorporating GFSA's Recommended Offer has been posted to registered shareholders of Unicorp.

THE IMPROVED OFFER IS:–

For every 100 Ordinary Shares in Unicorp	6 New GFSA Ordinary Shares plus 7 New GFSA Convertible Preference Shares plus R120 IN CASH

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You may elect to receive
either
ADDITIONAL CASH INSTEAD OF GFSA ORDINARY SHARES
or
ADDITIONAL GFSA ORDINARY SHARES INSTEAD OF CASH

Subject to availability and on the bases stated in the Offer Document:–

THE CASH ELECTION SHOULD BE VALUABLE TO UNICORP'S UNITED KINGDOM AND OTHER SHAREHOLDERS NOT RESIDENT IN SOUTH AFRICA
who may elect to receive
ADDITIONAL CASH TO THE VALUE OF £203 INSTEAD OF GFSA ORDINARY SHARES WORTH £160
For every 100 Unicorp shares

THE SHARE ELECTION SHOULD BE VALUABLE TO UNICORP SHAREHOLDERS RESIDENT IN SOUTH AFRICA
who may elect to receive
ADDITIONAL GFSA ORDINARY SHARES WORTH R141 INSTEAD OF CASH TO THE VALUE OF R120
For every 100 Unicorp shares

TO SECURE THE RIGHTS OF ELECTION YOU MUST ACCEPT THE OFFER NOT LATER THAN 10th JANUARY 1975.

THE BOARD OF UNICORP AND THEIR ADVISERS UNANIMOUSLY RECOMMEND UNICORP SHAREHOLDERS TO ACCEPT.

JOHANNESBURG
23rd DECEMBER 1974

See page 16

Are you fit to make decisions after a long air flight and two extra gins?

When I was head of the Government's Think Tank the powers that be—it would, of course, be a breach of the Official Secrets Act to mention them by name—allowed me to spend a little of my time on private activities of an entrepreneurial nature. These were not, I hasten to say, of the financial sort—that would have been a breach of Estacode, the Civil Services *n* commandments—just initiative of a personal as opposed to the Think Tank sort. This article is concerned with one of these initiatives, termed, for the benefit of Whitehall, Decision Making under Stress.

You do not need someone who, until recently, was an official (or civil servant as they are often called), and who was paid inter alia to observe the behaviour of ministers, to tell you that Cabinet ministers, trade union leaders, business tycoons, senior civil servants (or officials as they are often called), financiers and generals, admirals and air marshals, not to speak of field marshals, often have to take very important decisions, sometimes soon after a long flight, over-indulgence the evening before or even the same day (those lunches), or when one has, simply, been overdoing it and could do with a day or so off.

It is, of course, very difficult for extremely busy and important people to pause and ask themselves such questions as "Am I in a fit condition to take a decision in two hours time?", "Will I be able to follow my colleagues' reasoning at Cabinet later this morning?"; and some extremely busy and important people do not even like the idea that their powers of logical reasoning or their judgment could be a little below par. (The word par, as I shall show, is important, even though no competitions are involved in what follows, except with oneself.) "Ill effects of a transatlantic flight or those extra gin and tonics yesterday evening? Nonsense, I can adjust to such situations; so straight into the meeting." But can you? Do you? Of course, you do not want to subject yourself to examination by someone else and conceivably undergo the risk or—dare I say it—the humiliation of being found to be below par. From now on that is quite unnecessary because *The Times* provides you today with a secret and personal do-it-yourself kit, so that in future no one need ever know why you had that meeting, or your contribution to it, deferred.

The test at the end of this article (invented by A. D. Baddeley of the Medical Research Council) contains a number of short sentences, each followed by a pair of letters, AB or BA. The sentences claim to describe the order of the two letters, that is to say which comes first. They can do this in several different ways. Thus the order AB can be correctly described by saying either:

(i) A precedes B, or
(ii) B follows A, or
(iii) B does not precede A, or
(iv) A does not follow B.

These are correct descriptions of the pair AB but not if applied to the other pair, BA.

If you decide to test your state of mind, read each sentence 1-64 in the table and decide whether it is a true or false description of the letter pair which follows it. If you think the sentence described the letter pair correctly, put a tick in the first column headed "True". If you think the sentence does not give you a true description of the letter order, put a tick in the second column headed "False".

This is illustrated in examples (i) and (ii) below. Having read (i) and (ii), try examples (iii) to (vi)

	True	False
(i) A follows B—BA		
(ii) B precedes A—AB		
(iii) A is followed by B—AB		
(iv) B is not followed by A—BA		
(v) B is preceded by A—BA		
(vi) A does not precede B—BA		

When you start the main test, work as quickly as you can without making mistakes. You may well be able to finish the test in three minutes but whether you can or not, do not spend more than three minutes on it. (No kudos attaches to answering all the questions because you are only concerned with your own performance on different occasions.) Start with sentence 1 and work systematically through the test, leaving no blank spaces. Compare your marks at various times of the day or night, and on different occasions such as after a particularly busy week, a holiday, a long air trip, etc.

You would be well advised to do five exploratory runs during one or two weeks to get over the brief "learning period", that is improvement with practice.

It is important to remember that you are not competing with anyone else in this exercise; nor is it an intelligence test in which a high score could occasion satisfaction. You now have a do-it-yourself kit with which you can examine your powers of logical reasoning or state of mind under varying environmental conditions. Even if the types of question you have to ask yourself—and answer correctly—are of a different nature, eg have all the relevant factors been taken into consideration, a satisfactory score in the AB-BA test means that you are in good shape to deal with your particular problem, and vice versa.

Did *I* hear you say "What happened when you tried it on ministers and senior civil servants?"? I am, of course, forbidden to answer that question: but I am allowed to say that a few in both classes agreed to be guinea-pigs but, as the test requires, they kept the results to themselves.

The correct answers to the questions 1—64 are on page 12.

Answer as many items as you can in three minutes:

	True	False
1. A is preceded by B—BA		
2. A is not followed by B—BA		
3. B is preceded by A—BA		
4. A is followed by B—AB		
5. A does not follow B—AB		
6. B is not preceded by A—AB		
7. B follows A—AB		
8. A precedes B—BA		
9. B does not follow A—BA		
10. B precedes A—AB		
11. B is followed by A—BA		
12. B is not followed by A—BA		
13. B is preceded by A—AB		
14. B is followed by A—AB		
15. B precedes A—BA		
16. A is not followed by B—AB		
17. A is followed by B—BA		
18. B is not preceded by A—BA		
19. B is followed by A—AB		
20. A does not follow B—BA		
21. B does not precede A—AB		
22. A is preceded by B—AB		
23. B is not followed by A—AB		
24. A is not preceded by B—BA		
25. A follows B—BA		
26. A is not preceded by B—AB		
27. A follows B—AB		
28. A does not precede B—AB		
29. A precedes B—AB		
30. B is preceded by A—AB		
31. B does not precede A—BA		
32. A does not precede B—BA		
33. A does not follow B—AB		
34. A is not followed by B—BA		
35. B follows A—BA		
36. B is not preceded by A—BA		
37. B is preceded by A—BA		
38. A is not preceded by B—BA		
39. B precedes A—BA		
40. B follows A—BA		
41. B is followed by A—BA		
42. A follows B—AB		
43. B does not precede A—BA		
44. A does not precede B—BA		
45. A is preceded by B—BA		
46. B is not followed by A—AB		
47. A precedes B—BA		
48. B does not follow A—BA		
49. A is followed by B—AB		
50. B is not preceded by A—AB		
51. A does not precede B—AB		
52. A follows B—BA		
53. A is not followed by B—AB		
54. A is not preceded by B—AB		
55. A does not follow B—BA		
56. A is followed by B—BA		
57. B does not follow A—AB		
58. B does not precede A—AB		
59. B is not followed by A—BA		
60. B does not follow A—AB		
61. A precedes B—AB		
62. A is preceded by B—AB		
63. B precedes A—AB		
64. B follows A—AB		

Lord Rothschild

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Bernard Levin

Perhaps we can build a snowman tomorrow

I shall be spending Christmas in a house—I do not name it, nor the people who live there, for such things as the happiness of that house and the friendship of the indwellers are not to be thus profaned, being in any case a mystery far deeper than words can convey—in which one year, long gone by, we had something that the rest of the country did not, and, after earnest debate, decided that we would mark the fact in a significant manner; and did, as you shall hear.

The weather was cold and raw when we gathered on Christmas Eve, and when dusk fell and the curtains were drawn only a Captain Oates would have stepped outside. The forecast promised cold on the morrow, but it needed no weatherman, come from the Air Ministry roof, to tell us that, and when we had counted the crumpets, and pronounced the supply adequate, and filled the children's stockings and laid them in the hearth, and wrapped the final parcels, and had a final drink, there was nothing left to do but go to bed. It was well after two, and there was still no sign of anything in the sky but a million flickering candles. (I sometimes think that all Shakespeare contains nothing more beautiful than those four lines of Juliet's, which I remember Robert Kennedy quoted in 1964 when the Democratic Party Convention paused to honour the memory of his murdered brother:

Take him and cut him out in little stars,
And he will make the face of heaven so fine
That all the world will be in love with night,
And pay no worship to the garish sun.

But I must not digress, even on Christmas Eve.)

In what remained of the night, it snowed. It must have waited until the last of us was asleep, and then in the few hours remaining before the appalling hour of reveille that the young folk insisted upon, it came down. It came down not in a light powder, nor in wet and nasty sleet, nor in a layer thick enough to tantalize and too thin to remain, but in huge, profligate, smothering heaps, piled up, pressed down, and running over. We awoke into a white, soft, pure, undefiled world, a world as it was before the Fall and will be after the Resurrection, a world without dirt, sound or angles. We awoke, in short, to a White Christmas, and what made it all the more miraculous was that we were almost alone in having it; the part of the country we were in is often marked by eccentric weather conditions, and this time had overdone it, for, as we discovered when we listened to the news, there was practically no other snow in England.

After the opening of presents, and a quick count of the children to make sure that none of them was irretrievably lost beneath the piles of torn wrapping-paper, we turned to discussion of the snow. There was general agreement that those who are given such a signal mark of the gods' favour should respond with some kind of suitable thank-offering. We contemplated slaughtering an ox and roasting it whole, we toyed with the idea of a monster snowball-fight involving the entire county, we thought we might construct a ski-run. In the end, we decided to build a snowman. It would be no ordinary snowman, you understand; it would be a huge snowman, a giant snowman, a snowman which would stand higher than a man, higher than a house, than a tree, than a hill, than a mountain. We would build a snowman the like of which had never been seen, a snowman which would be talked of in centuries to come, a prince among snowmen, a king, an emperor. By Saint Nicholas, we would build a *snowman*.

Our host, ever a man to seize more quickly than his fellows the essential elements in a situation, instantly appointed himself general supervisor to the project, and set up his base inside the house, from which, through securely fastened windows, he would from time to time wave us encouragement, pointing to the glass in his hand to reassure us that he was in good fettle. Our hostess thought we were all mad, and indeed said so; besides, she had to get on with the lunch. But she did not forget, before doing so, to make sure that we were all suitably clad, and to set up a first-aid station for those overcome by cold and effort. The rest of us went forth onto the terrace, and set to work.

> Our hostess was certain we were mad

We delineated a vast base, quickly divided up the labourers into bringers and packers, and lo! our snowman began to grow before our eyes. To help things go, some of us sang, and some recited, and some simply gritted their teeth and worked. I recall that for some reason the word "anorak"—several members of the party were wearing them, extracted from the amazing cupboards in which our hostess kept, and indeed keeps, anything that her guests might conceivably need for any purpose—took on a mystic quality, and we began to fit it into well-known lines of poetry as:

Not anorak an anorak succeeds.
Oh ser. rolling anorak.
The moving finger writes, and anorak.
Milton! Thou shouldst be living anorak.
O what a tangled anorak.

And so on. (Our hostess, coming out to see if anybody should be ordered indoors for a hot drink and a rest, walked into the middle of this and returned more certain than ever that we were all mad.)

The snowman rose in splendour. I daresay that the passing years have played their usual trick of magnification; I am now prepared to believe that he was not 600 yards high and broad in proportion. But he was very large, and very handsome. When he was finished, we stood round him and contemplated him, well satisfied with our work. But we all felt he lacked something, and after a moment it was the innocent eye of youth that spotted what it was, and announced it. Every self-respecting snowman has to have coals for eyes, a carrot for a nose and a multicoloured woollen scarf round his neck. These were found and fitted, and we looked upon our snowman, and found that he was good.

We all have days of gold, to which we return again and again, in vacant or in pensive mood. For me the day of the snowman is such a day, and always will be. It had stopped snowing before we began, and the sky was clear; wherever I looked there were friends; there was no cloud over that house, and no care inside it. The years have gone by; the most active of those who built in snow that day—it was he who started the anorak game—is long since dead; and those who were children are grown up. But still, every Christmas, I think of the day we made the snowman, and of how, for a moment, we stopped time in its rolling course, and snatched a memory from its inexorable jaws. Perhaps it will snow tonight.

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Thirty years on with the Grand Old Man

"I told the truth", said the Grand Old Man. "I told it twice that year—in February and again in October. Tell the truth and you can trust the people to do the right thing sooner or later. My own history proves it."

We were sitting, as so often before, in the yellow drawing room at Chequers, with Louis le Brocquy's arresting mural of the GOM at the helm of Morning Cloud XV. The GOM, decanter of malt whisky at his side, was looking back over the 30 years since the Quiet Revolution properly began. With the passage of time I find him more and more given to reminiscence. In old age he has become quite expansive.

As he was saying: "It was 1974, not 1970, when I really took off, even though some people are inclined to give me credit for the earlier date. But Davies—do you remember John Davies, the lame duck?—boshed things up for me in 1970, so that we made a false start."

Of course he is right: 1974 was the watershed, with two election disasters in eight months. But for the galvanizing shock—the therapy—of that double defeat he might never have fulfilled himself.

That was what fired him afresh, first to put down the insolent and illegitimate attempt to dislodge him from the party leadership, then to fight on to victory in 1975, when he formed his first Government of National Unity, Cooperation, Collaboration, Reconciliation and Repentance.

The true seeds of the Quiet Revolution were to be found in that electric yet melancholy year when, after painful self-examination, he entirely recast his policies and in most instances reversed them. Every single achievement in his staggering record as our longest-serving Prime Minister had its origins then.

"The essential thing at the beginning", as he is fond of reminding us, "was to beat off that disloyal and unauthorized attack on my leadership. I couldn't let it go on: the party simply wouldn't have stood for it. You won't have forgotten that some members of the 1922 Committee—the so-called moderates, or firebrands—were actually blaming me (me of all people) for our repeated defeats when, as those of us who understand these things knew at the time, the electorate were to blame."

Speaking with the emotion that one can always detect from the heaving movement of his shoulders, he went on to pay tribute to his oldest political friend, the Duke of Blackpool, formerly Lord Aldington, whose audacious tactical advice proved vital in breaking the dissidents.

"Toby was marvellous", he said, "typically marvellous. So was Peter" (an equally happy and eloquent allusion to another of his most steadfast, indeed noble, friends, the Marquis of Carrington).

"Then look at Willie Whitelaw. He was marvellous, too, still is. Think of his bold, almost reckless, refusal to stand against me. That took courage. Willie's been the loyalest of party chairmen for 30 years now, never a hint of self-seeking.

"Keith Joseph was a bit uppity", he continued, "and so was Margaret Thatcher—the Milk Snatcher as we used to call her in the old days, when she was at Education. But they were egged on by some of the extremists, I dare say. They've been very good ever since, otherwise I wouldn't have kept them in my administration to this day.

"As for Edward du Cann", he said with an indulgent chuckle, "I'm sure he likes the life chairmanship of the 1922 Committee since we made it a leader's appointment and did away with all that ridiculous voting. It's a role that rather suits him, and I've found him most compliant, subservient, really."

But then trouble has given place to tranquillity in every sphere since the Great Reversal. As the GOM puts it, in that inspired, emotive phrase which he has made his own, we have become One Nation. Our institutions have taken on a new stability. There is an air of permanence in public life, thanks partly to the introduction of 10-year Parliaments.

> 'The true seeds of the Quiet Revolution were to be found in that electric yet melancholy year when ..... he entirely recast his policies and in most instances reversed them'

By insisting that his Chancellor should balance the Budget (not that Mr Powell has needed overmuch prompting), banning property speculation (with life imprisonment the irreducible penalty on conviction), winning over the trade unions (what a stroke it was to divert Lord Scanlon to the Department of Employment), abolishing VAT, restoring our old currency, cancelling Concorde and finally winding up the motor car industry, the GOM has laid an unassailable foundation for governing in perpetuity.

Nor should we underestimate the effect of a number of lesser but still socially important decisions, among them the rejection of the metric system on grounds of unfamiliarity and the decree (or ordinance, as Lord Eccles prefers to call it) requiring all museums and art galleries, public or private, to allow free access to permanent collections and special exhibitions alike, and, moreover, to provide free teas.

While most of the credit for all this must attach to the GOM himself, he is in some degree indebted to others, not least his old parliamentary opponent, the Earl of Huddersfield and Huyton, whose passive cooperation he readily acknowledges. But for this forbearance, the mood of contentment in the country might not have become so firmly established.

Not that Lord Huddersfield is idle, far from it: but his prodigious intellectual energy is now entirely applied to works of scholarship.

He is politically quiescent, completely withdrawn from public life. Memoirs apart (his 25th and final volume is due next year), one will not easily forget his classic—and exceedingly well received—*Salute to the European Ideal*.

Nor can we overlook the absence of Mr Denis Healey and Mr Wedgwood Benn. Disconcerted by the GOM's spasmodic strictures on the unpleasant and unacceptable face of capitalism, to which they had become attached in the light of ministerial experience, they emigrated with Mr Peter Walker to Cincinnati, where Mr Benn (or Lord Stansgate, as he is again known) had valuable family connections.

Their partnership as real estate operators, to use the American term, has proved a spectacular success in the wake of the depression, or Friedman Collapse.

Again, it is fair to recognize the goodwill of Mr Roy Jenkins, Viscount Lever and Mrs Shirley Williams. Their readiness to serve, along with Mr Humphry Berkeley, head of a well-known school in Sussex before changing his name, has added an agreeably articulate element to the GOM's administration.

It may be further reinforced, I gather, by Mr Maudling's return to office, for his old patron remains anxious to reinstate him, as he has always said.

Nor should we forget Sir Don Ryder, the knight Ryder, as the GOM playfully refers to him, one of the happier legacies of the previous, if scarcely remembered, regime. Otherwise, the GOM's "team" is virtually (though not, alas, completely) as it was in the old days.

Another unifying influence has been the restoration of hereditary peerages and the liberality (not to say prodigality) with which the GOM has distributed honours of every degree.

Half the nation, and certainly all one's friends, have at last received proper recognition—men of letters (Sir Bernard Levin, OM) and leaders of the professions alike (the barrack room architect, Lord Knightsbridge-Spence, is an example). But more than that, the quality, the aptness, of the GOM's public appointments has never been surpassed.

Who could imagine an improvement on Lord Radlett (the former Mr Norman Collins) as Chairman of the BBC, with Lord Robinday as counterpart at the IBA? The subtlety is breathtaking. Sir Alan Watkins QC (who rapidly took silk on quitting Grub Street to return to the Bar) has not been equalled as director-general of the COI.

There are many other examples: Lady Antonia Fraser, DBE, now administering the delicate, and potentially explosive, system of state patronage in literature; Dr Patrick Cosgrave and Professor Maurice Cowling as the GOM's resident logicians; the *Telegraph* trio of knights—Colin Welch, Peregrine Worsthorne and J. W. M. Thompson—at the head of his superb propaganda bureau after intensive indoctrination by Sir George Gale; Lord Forbesbryan (who reversed and then merged his names on accession to the peerage) as chairman of the Arts Council; Sir Michael Ivens at the Office of Industrial Relations; and Mr Richard Ingrams (who refused a title) at the new RSC—the Eye-catching Royal Satirical Company.

An impressive catalogue, you may think. Yet the GOM is still accused of not bringing people forward, and the charge rather rankles with him. "It's simply untrue", he says. "Look at my administration. I brought Peter Tapsell in a good 15 years ago. He's Parliamentary Secretary at Transport, I think, responsible for the revival of the electric trolley bus, you know. Then there's Nigel Lawson. He's still working away on his blueprint for Northern Ireland. You're familiar with his juridical theory, I dare say".

The GOM paused, replenishing our glasses and calling for chocolate biscuits (an old addiction), which his butler, Hurd, brought in at the double. "There are others, too", he said. "Offhand I can't remember who they are, but I do know them. I've spoken to them myself more than once".

Like all my encounters with the GOM it had been a moving occasion. Throughout our conversation, we had been listening to Beethoven's Variations on *See the Conquering Hero* (all 12 of them, op 157), played over and over again from the long gallery. As the GOM rose, I knew that he wished to be alone in the music room to play for himself, as he does every night on one or other of his splendid Steinways, the same composer's *Rage Over a Lost Penny*, op 129.

Ever since the Inflation, which he at first took to heart, as a reflection on himself, he has been attached to this lesser-known rondo for piano.

I slipped away. In the hall I ran into his man of affairs, Commander Tucker, and the chamberlain, Captain Wolff. As they were assisting me into the GOM's Lamborghini (quite unnecessarily, I may add: Kitson the chauffeur and Baker the footman were perfectly capable of managing on their own) I was touched to hear them say what they have been saying for 30 years now, that he is still at the very beginning of his powers.

George Hutchinson

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ADVERTISEMENT

This year, when you sing

O little town of Bethlehem,

spare a thought for the Palestinian Arabs, Muslim as well as Christian, who are still suffering under military occupation.

Remember too that, because of the occupation, many Christian Arabs for whom Bethlehem is home will spend this Christmas in exile for the eighth year in succession.

Don't forget this when you sing

O little town of Bethlehem.

Council for the Advancement of Arab-British Understanding,
106 Grand Buildings,
Trafalgar Square, London WC2N 5EP

The Times Diary

An easier quiz for a crisis holiday

Once again my Christmas quiz is designed to discover whether you watch this space for information as well as for grammatical slips and printers' errors. The answers to all the questions below have appeared in the past year's Diaries, but, in case you forgot, the answers are printed at the end, upside down. Special steps have been taken to make the quiz easier this year. I quite understand that you have more than enough to worry about without being tormented by barbarous brain-teasers.

1. What is Burpless?
2. What would you do with clapshot, rumbledethumps, whim-wham and roast bubbly-jock?
3. What have Glasgow magistrates in common with Norfolk capons?
4. Or Irish apricots with Munster plums?
5. Or Ichabod Onion and Mollie Parter-Downes?
6. Which is the odd one out: Inspector Barker of the Merseyside Police dogs section, Herr Biegler of St Gallen police, the Rev Saint of Oxford, Bishop's messenger A. Pigeon of Bangor, Rev Angel of Bristol University, or Mr Panic of the National Economic Development Council?
7. What is (a) dill, (b) comfrey, (c) shinty?
8. Why is a pleasure trip to Egypt fit only for very old gentlemen?
9. "Bobby has an underdeveloped heart. 'e goes for Miss Wise (8)."
10. What is Eggs into Moonshine?
11. Why were advertisements for blood donors discontinued twice in Britain this year?
12. What parties did the following peers leave and join in 1974: (a) Lord St Davids, (b) Lord Chalfont, (c) Lord Belhaven?
13. Whose embassy has the highest flagpole in Bangkok?
14. Which former chief of staff of the IRA won a Nobel Peace Prize this year?
15. What did Dr Una Kroll, Vanessa Redgrave, Eric Morley of Mecca, the Marquess Douro and Robin Young of the Diary have in common this year?
16. Which British mammals (a) spread frothy saliva over their spikes, (b) have voracious appetites and tails which serve as built-in telephones?
17. In Meadowland who were (a) the rabbits, (b) the squirrels, (c) the hedgehogs, (d) the bats, (e) the moles.
18. What is *eng* Danish for?
19. What images would you have seen on the screen at the showing of the film *Hurlements en faveur de Sade*?
20. How many zebra crossings are there in London's royal parks?
21. How old was Charles IX of France when he became the country's junior real tennis champion?
22. What is a lagerphone?
23. What happened to the mile on May 6th, 1954?
24. What is the feminine of fraternal?
25. What status (AB, C1, C2 or DE) have (a) a chartered accountant, (b) a data processing manager's wife, (c) a compositor, (d) a sales representative, (e) a shop assistant.
26. Who edits (a) *The Economist*, (b) the *Daily Express*, (c) the *Morning Star*, (d) *The Times*?
27. Can you name the Christmas comet?
28. What is Tago-Sato-Kosaka?
29. Who was Matthew Flinders?
30. What title do Walter Cornelius and Vasily Alexeyev both claim?
31. How many hours were there in St Patrick's Day, 1974?
32. Who composed the *Grimethorpe Aria*?
33. Which is the more economical: (a) pyrolysis or hydrolysis, (b) burial or cremation, (c) wine auctions or Fortnum and Mason?
34. What from Bhutan can smell of roses or be played on a gramophone?
35. What was the Black-faced Heath?
36. What is wrong with Welsh rarebit?
37. What did the Jamaican High Commissioner in London do in the 1948 Olympics?
38. How much do Harrod's charge to gift-wrap a picnic basket—£3, £4, £12, £15? (Two answers are correct).
39. Why did three-quarters of the staff of the Countryside Commission leave their jobs?
40. Which of the following do not exist: Overeaters Anonymous; the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Mushrooms; the Red Suspender League; the Convicts' Association for a Good Environment; the Dracula Society; the Center for a Woman's Own Name; the International Grooving and Grinding Association?
41. Of which country did Nicos Georghiades become President during the year?
42. What are boondogglers?
43. What do our initials PHS stand for?
44. Who said: (a) "Yes, I'm a real old Cockney. I was born in Cadogan Gardens"; (b) "I have been raising my price in accordance with Phase Three"; (c) "I never promised you a rose garden"?
45. Who boasted: "We have the fastest court in the West"?
46. Where were Conservative Central Office's "Put Britain First" T-shirts made?
47. What was wrong with Prince Edward's kilt at his sister's wedding?
48. Who owns the copyright of J. M. Barrie's *Peter Pan*?
49. What is the German for (a) crab, (b) shrimp, (c) crayfish, (d) haddock?
50. What did Sir Joseph Bazalgette provide for London?

What completes this benign portrait?

SHd

Picture question: A tommy gun—Churchill was totting one in the original picture.

Answers

1. A variety of cucumber. 2. Eat them. Parliament if you are Scottish. 3. They are both names for red herrings. 4. Both mean potatoes. 5. Both are featured in the *Guinness Book of Names*. 6. (a) Pigeon, whose duty in *Brighton's* was a hoax. The rest are real. 7. (a) Herb used in pickles (b) A herb and sedative. (c) Gaelic hockey. 8. Because it is see-Nile-thing to do (joke). 9. Prudence. 10. Yolks of egg poached in rosewater and sprinkled with sugar and cinnamon—a sixteenth-century recipe.
11. Because Government advertising is discontinued during general elections. 12. (a) Left Labour and joined no one, (b) The same. (c) Left Conservatives to join Scottish Nationalists. 13. Ours. 14. Sean MacBride. 15. They all stood unsuccessfully for Parliament. 16. (a) Hedgehogs (b) Moles. 17. (a) Labour. (b) Conservatives. (c) Liberals. (d) Nationalists. (e) Journalists. 18. Meadow. 19. None. It showed blank screen for 30 minutes, with an unintelligible sound track. 20. None.
21. Two. 22. A musical instrument made by rolling beer bottle tops to a broomstick—formerly known as a jugging Johnny or a Murrumbidgee River rattler. 23. It was run in four minutes. 24. Sororal or sororial. 25. (a) AB. (b) C1. (c) C2. (d) C1. (e) C2. 26. (a) Andrew Knight. (b) Alistair Burnet. (c) Tony Chater. (d) William Rees-Mogg. 27. Kohoutek. 28. A comet named after Japanese astronomers.
29. The first man to circumnavigate Australia. 30. Strongest man in the world. 31. 3 hours (British Summer Time began on March 17). 32. Harrison Birtwistle. 33. (a) Pyrolysis heating garbage to produce gas is less economical than hydrolysis, boiling it with acid to produce ethyl alcohol, protein and yeast. (b) Cremation. (c) Auctions. 34. Stamps. 35. A breed of sheep. 36. Fowler says it is "stupid and wrong" and Chambers say it is written "by wiseacres", but some older authorities say rarebit is right, and rabbit the corruption. 37. Won the gold medal in the 400 metres—he is Arthur Wint. 38. £3, or £15 for Rainbow Paper. 39. Because the Commission moved to Chelmsford and they did not want to work in the country. 41. Cyprus. Georghiadey was Nicos Sampson's real name. 42. People who pretend to be working when they are idling (American). 43. Printing House Square. 44. (a) Jeweller of Jermyn Street (b) Clement Freud, the Fyfe's Lecture Agency's pricliest speaker. (c) President Ford. 45. Sir John Donaldson of the Industrial Relations Court. 46. Portugal. 47. Some people said it was upside down, but the manufacturer said it was made sideways from the tartan cloth because it was more economical. 48. The Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children.
49. (a) Krabbe, Krebse, or Taschenkrebse. (b) Krabbe, Krebse, Garnele, Garnat, or Spielerabbe.
50. Which did Sir Joseph Bazalgette provide for London? Picture question: A tommy gun—Churchill was totting one in the original picture.

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TIMES PAST THE TIMES
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RESOURCES OF THE SPIRIT

Today Pope Paul VI inaugurates the twenty-fifth Holy Year to be celebrated in the Roman Catholic Church. Boniface VIII, who proclaimed the first jubilee in the year 1300, intended its observance to be centennial. But other popes and other generations were not content to miss their chance. After some oscillation the period settled down to twenty five years, and so it has remained with gaps in the nineteenth century when the papacy lacked the necessary political foothold in Rome. It fell to Pope Paul to decide whether to continue or suspend the tradition.

Few Christians, indeed few persons of religion, will deny the suitability in these troubled times of the dedication of a year to the advancement of faith and *reconciliation*. Not all, however, are attracted to this particular way of doing so, the most conspicuous features of which are mass pilgrimages to Rome and the grant in a most ample manner of a plenary indulgence by the Holy See.

A Holy Year magnifies the place of Rome in the Christian Church, and by extension the papal primacy. The logistics of the thing are formidable. In the 1450 celebrations 200 pilgrims were trampled to death in a panic on the bridge of Sant' Angelo. No one suggests that the present municipal administration, bad as it is, is so bad as to threaten a repetition of that event. But pilgrimages on such a scale impose strains on already overstretched services and are usually attended by venality. Then there is the matter of the plenary indulgence. The place of indulgences in the Roman Catholic scheme of things has changed since Friar Tetzel was preaching them near Wittenberg in 1516. But the memory of those titanic controversies has not completely faded, and Reformed churches must find it difficult to take warmly to an initiative of which indulgences are so central a feature.

They will take more encouragement from the emphasis Pope Paul has been placing in his preliminary exhortations on the purposes of interior renewal and reconciliation of man with God and man with man. The kind of society with which we in the Western world are familiar has been disfigured by swollen expectations and exaggerated grievances. It is not going to take kindly to colder economic weather. It would be prudent, for the children of this world no less than for the children of light, to cultivate interior resources when exterior resources are becoming more difficult to command. Moreover, the hope survives that self-improvement by persons brings about improvements in the general arrangements and relationships of the society to which they belong.

The springs of individual action are not, however, simply continuous with the springs of collective action. Organizations exhibit institutional drives which work to some extent independently of the personal drives of its members. A topical illustration of the point is the device of the strike against the public. Whether it is a schoolteachers' union ordering action which disimproves some pupils' examination chances, or a miners' union acting in a way which makes it more likely that some old and solitary people will die of hypothermia, or a consultants' union contemplating action which deprives patients of early medical attention, or railway signalmen making it difficult or impossible for some important journeys to be made—in all such cases the collective pursuit of self-interest is held to sanction behaviour which most members of the organization would be thoroughly ashamed of if the behaviour was their own in a person to person situation. The same paradox attachesto the behaviour of a gang at a football stadium, or a sectarian mob in the street, or a nation at war.

If the dominant collective drives of a society cease to be well adapted to the realities of that society's situation one may expect malfunctioning to follow. Some thoughtful people suspect that that is the position now reached by Western industrial societies.

Acquisitive drives are deeply institutionalized in politics, commerce and organized labour. These collective activities proceed as if the competitive enlargement of consumption were the proper order of things. Its achievement is made to appear their main, though not their exclusive, purpose. This presupposes that such indefinite progression is possible.

The belief that it is possible was cradled both by a particular theological world view and by the course of development of natural science and technology since the seventeenth century. The first inculcated a view of man's superiority over other created things, which were to be understood as instrumental to his needs. The second suggested that human rationality and ingenuity could convert the resources of the planet to man's satisfaction virtually without limit.

A theology of nature of that kind is no longer entertained at any except a popular level. And the direction in which the sciences now point is away from a conception of the natural world as providing material for endless exploitation and towards recognition of the complexity and instability of natural systems, in relation to which man is to be seen not as a superior beneficiary but as an integral part. This view which science gives of the relational complexity and fragility of the biosphere is matched by common observation of the stresses and scarcities that make themselves felt when vast populations, furnished with the attitudes and equipment of this age, press upon one another and upon the resources of the globe.

The attitudes which might fit this emerging understanding of modern man's predicament on earth are beginning to be shared by the discerning; while those who have held fast to the spiritual values of the Christian faith or absorbed the wisdom of the "perennial philosophy" have never been out of touch with these things. But it is just here that the discontinuity between personal and institutional attitudes is of such significance. Until the latter are changed (and the means of doing so are lengthy and obscure) society as a whole—or, which is almost as bad for society, powerful interests within it—will suffer the consequences of failure to adapt.

Meanwhile many citizens, aware of the penalty of that failure, feel frustrated in their generous impulses to make some voluntary personal sacrifice for the common good. It may be something to stave off famine abroad, or something to relieve the condition of inflationary indebtedness which is deforming the nation. They come up against the difficulty of making effective a sacrifice which, however large for them, is insignificant in relation to what has called it forth; and they are discouraged by the vastly superior weight of institutional pressures moving in the opposite direction. It would be a stroke of political leadership to create outlets for these impulses, capable of turning what are now condemned to be quixotic gestures into actions of utility in the face of gathering danger.

COMMAS DO MATTER IN DIPLOMACY

When western political leaders meet Mr Brezhnev they find themselves pressed to say something optimistic about the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, which adjourned for Christmas last week after more than a year of negotiation in Geneva. For instance, in Moscow in July President Nixon endorsed the Soviet view that the Conference had made such good progress that it should be wound up at an early date at the highest level. Yet only a few weeks earlier the Nato foreign ministers had expressed disappointment at the lack of progress.

A similar pattern has been repeated this month. After Mr Brezhnev's visit to Paris the joint communiqué contained phrases which the Russians, with a little bending and stretching, are now depicting as a French commitment to an early summit conference of the thirty-five countries involved. A week later, however, the French subscribed to a much more cautious Nato communiqué which said that there had been enough progress to show that substantial results were possible but certain important questions had still to be resolved.

These differences have a number of causes. One of them is the tendency of political leaders to become impatient with the long wrangles over minute points of phraseology which hold up the Geneva negotiations. They can easily be persuaded that they are called upon to give the talks new impetus by cutting through the knots tied by meticulous officials. The Americans were particularly impatient because they felt that the talks were allowing a lot of minor European countries to obstruct the majestic progress of détente between the super powers.

American attitudes are now changing with a change of President partly because the west Europeans have refused to forget that the conference is committed to working out a set of principles governing relations among the countries of east and west Europe as well as to improving the flow of people and information. The Russians have thus discovered that they cannot settle everything by direct negotiations with Washington but they still cling to hopes that by getting together with individual politicians they can make gains which elude them at the conference table.

Doubtless they will try again when they meet Mr Wilson next year. It is therefore important for western politicians to see that the long delays in Geneva have not been caused solely by the finicky exactitude of officials obsessed by disputes over the positions of commas. They have been caused partly because thirty-five nations are trying to agree on something they have never agreed on before, and partly because the Russians have correctly recognized the importance of the texts that will emerge and are prepared to fight hard for certain formulations.

For instance, they have been trying to avoid a commitment to publishing the results of the conference in full. If they are successful they could make it difficult for their own citizens to claim their rights in matters such as the reunification of families. They are also resisting proposals on the advance notification of military manoeuvres which western governments regard as essential to the confidence-building aspects of the conference. More generally, there have been long disputes over vaguely worded preambles which could become escape routes from almost all the obligations which follow.

These texts will become basic documents in European relations. They will be referred to and argued about for many years. They will not instantly transform the situation. They may have scarcely any noticeable effect at first. But as well as containing certain definite obligations they will provide points of reference and appeal, and standards against which conduct can be judged. If they are sloppily drafted now, or if unnecessary concessions are made in order to give some official visit a flicker of extra warmth, there will be a price to pay in the future. The West has no need to pay this price if it merely sticks to the commitments which all the participants made in Helsinki last year.

Treatment of dissidents

From Mr Lea Ben Dor

Sir, The misleading quotation from a parliamentary report of mine in *The Jerusalem Post* of November 8, in a letter signed by Lord Oxford and Asquith and others which appeared in *The Times* of December 5, has only just been brought to my notice.

I am truly amazed that the noble Lord totally fails to recognize irony when he meets it: we tend to consider it an English speciality. By quoting me out of context, Lord Oxford entirely reversed the sense of a reference I made to Dr Israel Shahak, an Israel chemist who has been sharply attacked for his political support of the PLO terrorist organization.

The criticism was voiced in a discussion in the Knesset (parliament) on the recent promotion to full professor at the Hebrew University of Dr Shahak. Several speakers, including the Education Minister, Aharon Yadlin, had expressed the view that Dr Shahak appeared unbalanced in his political utterances, in fact, that he was "crazy".

In a final comment summing up the debate I wrote:

"Remember the Medvedev scientist brothers in Russia, who were locked up in a mental hospital because they disagreed with official Soviet policy, because the Russians said they were crazy, *they must be*? What shall we do about the poor professor? The hospital? Or a bit of the terrorism he approves? A booby-trap over the laboratory door?"

Lord Oxford and Asquith omitted the entire reference to the Medvedevs and Russian methods with dissenters. In Israel the fate of the two Medvedev brothers, Roy and Zhores—who are not Jews—is nevertheless part of the saga of Soviet Jews imprisoned as "crazy" because they wish to emigrate to Israel. Zhores Medvedev has been in England for more than a year, and his name, as a man persecuted for his opinions, should surely have been familiar to the defenders of Professor Shahak.

The implication in my article was quite clear, at least to the reader of the full paragraph: let us not be like the Russians in this respect, nor say a man is crazy because he disagrees with us.

Yours faithfully,
LEA BEN DOR, Editor,
The Jerusalem Post,
The Jerusalem Post Building,
Romema,
Jerusalem 91000.
December 18.

County Court bailiffs

From Mr M. R. Turner

Sir, The Law Society opposes the County Court Bailiff system being extended to the High Court (*The Times*, December 16).

What a pity they do not go further and request the Lord Chancellor to extend the High Court enforcement procedure to the County Court!

To say that the service provided by the Bailiffs, who are charged with enforcing County Court judgments, is "unsatisfactory" is the understatement of the year. After some five months' tussle with the Bailiffs of the Uxbridge County Court, who seem quite unable to enforce payment of a relatively trivial sum from a debtor who has at least the trappings of wealth, one is left with the impression that the County Court bailiff system is wholly incapable of carrying out the job for which it was set up.

I am not alone in the legal profession in thinking that there is something rotten in the state of the County Court bailiff system, and the sooner it is abolished in favour of an enforcement procedure with teeth, the better.

Yours faithfully,
M. R. TURNER,
44 Bedford Row, WC1.
December 17.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Increases in top salaries

From Mr Ian Gow, Conservative MP for Eastbourne

Sir, By common consent, we are facing our gravest economic crisis ever. The need for national unity, and to put country before self has never been greater.

Yet the Prime Minister chose the last day of 1974 on which Parliament was in session to announce, in a written answer, that from the first day of the New Year, the salaries of generals, admirals, air chief marshals and under-secretaries will go up by nearly £60 a week, before tax.

However justified these increases might be in normal circumstances, their implementation at the present time reveals a lack of understanding of the national mood and an ignorance of the whole psychology of leadership which is deeply disturbing.

1975 will be a year of substantial redundancies and much higher unemployment. It will be a year when the country cannot afford any real increases in wages, if the most vulnerable are to be protected. On March 18, 1974, in his first speech in the House of Commons as Secretary for Employment, Mr Michael Foot said:

"Nothing can be more absurd than the spectacle of a few fat men exhorting all the thin ones to tighten their belts."

Just so. The Prime Minister's decision has highlighted that absurdity and has added greatly to the difficulties of his own Secretary of State.

Yours faithfully,
IAN GOW,
House of Commons.
December 21.

Farm worker's lot

From Mr Wilfrid E. Cave

Sir, Farmworkers were "notoriously underpaid" claimed Mr Bottini of the National Union of Agricultural Workers in his letter to you (November 28).

Mr Rampton refutes this in his letter today (December 18) and forecasts *future* earnings of around £2,000 per annum. So far as this part of the country is concerned Mr Rampton seriously understates the *existing* position. The average gross earnings of all the adult men between the ages of 20 and 65 on my own farm in the past six months is £49.50 per week and I know that this sort of level is commonplace on many progressive farms in the Wessex area.

I calculate that the wage award effective from January 20, 1975, will add not less than £350 per annum to a man's gross earnings and in the case of stockmen the figure will be much higher, taking many farmworkers well beyond the £3,000 a year mark quite regardless of any benefits in kind. If this is being "notoriously underpaid" compared with other industries perhaps Mr Bottini would name the other industries to which he refers and state some figures and should he want proof of my own figures I will be pleased to give it to him (in confidence, of course).

Yours faithfully,
WILFRID E. CAVE,
W. E. & D. T. Cave Ltd, Farmers,
Lower House Farm,
Everleigh,
Marlborough, Wiltshire.

From Mr L. G. Scales

Sir, It should be noted that although Mr J. M. Rampton (Letters, December 18) quotes what he thinks farm cottages are worth, in cash terms, on the open property market, he expediently omits to reveal their true commercial worth to the farmers.

Without them farmers would not be shielded from the harsh realities of the open labour market. That is why they fight tooth and nail to retain control over them and those who dwell in them. That is why, after a farm worker has worked more hours to earn it, his average wage is £19 per week less than the national average.

That is why, Mr Bottini, the farm workers' representative, would be justified for his suspicions of any promises that the farmers may make about their seeing that the farm workers would be a great deal better off, if, in the event of his successful persuasions, his fellow trade unionists started to pay what Mr Rampton considers to be a realistic price for home produced food.

Yours truly,
L. G. SCALES, Chairman,
Epping Branch,
National Union of Agricultural and Allied Workers,
Coopersale Hall Farm,
Epping, Essex.

City and British Leyland

From Mr G. F. M. P. Thompson

Sir, Does Mr Roger Marsh (December 12) appreciate that the problems of financial institutions and the problems of industrial enterprises have different causes calling for different remedies?

A financial institution uses savings to finance assets. It runs into difficulty when these assets, however good, cease to be realizable within the time span of the financing institution's resources. Another institution having more durable resources can provide a remedy.

An industrial enterprise meets difficulty when its product can no longer be sold at a price which covers its cost. There may be a host of reasons for this, rising costs, restricted prices, unimaginative design, imporent management or intractable labour. Against these financial help is no remedy; it may even make matters worse.

A government may decide to transfer the burden of an unprofitable enterprise to the country as a whole by creating the funds necessary to keep it in being regardless of the inflationary effects. It is in fact these effects which transfer the burden to the public. A financial institution cannot do this. Nor can it take the burden on its own shoulders because its prime responsibilities are to its creditors, its customers, its employees and its shareholders.

Yours faithfully,
GERALD THOMPSON, Chairman,
Kleinwort Benson,
20, Fenchurch Street, EC3.

Editors and the closed shop

From the Secretary of State for Employment

Sir, Since you persist in misrepresenting in your columns both the purpose and possible effects of the Government's Trade Union and Labour Relations (Amendment) Bill, and since, in your grisly pantomime, you continue to portray me as the demon king smirkingly engaged in the assault upon your fairy queen, the freedom of the press, perhaps you will permit me to remove these alarms and thereby, I trust, save a few of your readers over Christmas from superfluous apoplexy.

First of all, it is just not true that the Bill proposes to introduce, much less encourage or enforce, closed shops in the editorial departments of newspapers. The Bill is neutral on that subject. What our Bill does in this particular is to remove the outlawry of the closed shop which the Industrial Relations Act 1971 sought vainly to impose, and to make the necessary accommodations *required by the fact that there is* now in operation, as there was not before 1971, the concept of "fair" or "unfair" dismissal. The clause about proposed union membership agreements which we have devised for this purpose will, we believe, be both workable and flexible: of course it was devised in the first place to suit industry as a whole and not merely the newspaper industry. It will end the pretence that closed shops may be outlawed by legal edict, but it will otherwise leave all such matters as the numbers of unions to be involved and the status of editors or other professional bodies or persons to be settled by intelligent negotiation which, in the long run, is the only way in which they can be intelligently settled.

Perhaps instead of misleading your readers by reports covering so many other aspects of the issues affecting a free press, you might have related what happened in this country prior to 1971. This is the horrific state of affairs which we propose to restore. The editor will be in no worse position legally than he was before 1971, and in one respect his position will be improved. If he chooses to remain a member of the National Union of Journalists and if he lost his job as a result of unreasonable action on the part of the union, he would have, what he did not have before 1971, the right of appeal to the TUC's independent tribunal.

I appreciate that it may be argued that, within the newspaper industry, as in many others associated with white collar workers, there may be an intensified drive towards greater union membership. So be it. I trust it will not be regarded as a sinister confession if I say that, as a Labour Minister, I can hardly be expected to throw legal bulwarks across that road of development. But may I quote from the well-informed article which Mr John Elliott, Labour Editor of the *Financial Times*, wrote on this subject on November 27:

"once a union or a group of workers has decided to try to obtain a closed shop, each employer is entitled to deal with this as he would with any other union claim—by negotiation or outright rejection. It is also open to an employer and a union to decide on specific provisions—for example, excluding existing employees from any requirement to join a union or allowing time for new recruits to join—and to write in any extra specific unions which are to be recognized."

That, I repeat, was the position before 1971; it will remain the position when our Act becomes law.

However, if it is further argued that it is not the projected law which arouses your concern, but the general mood and atmosphere in Fleet Street and the rest of the industry, I am ready to agree. How freedom is not merely to be protected but to be enlarged; what is to be the status of editors and whether some agreed acknowledgment of that status can be incorporated in union membership agreements, if negotiation establishes the desirability of those agreements; how the code of the journalists and editors' or proprietors' scarcely less eloquent professions are to be translated into practice, are all questions of supreme importance, and it was for this reason that I greatly welcomed both in conversation with the General Secretary of the National Union of Journalists and in the House of Commons the general secretary's initiative in proposing talks with the editors and proprietors on these topics. These talks, I believe and trust, could achieve what no law could achieve—an assurance that a strengthening of trade unionism would be combined with an enlargement of individual freedom.

It is precisely because of these hopes that I was saddened when the Fleet Street editors who met me again last week appeared to suggest that they might not favour these talks if it had not been agreed in advance to enforce by law what I believe may be most difficult, or even improper, to enforce. That would surely be a sour response to a helpful initiative, and I trust the editors will come to see the mischief of it; after all, others besides editors and proprietors have a right and a duty to discuss how these essential freedoms shall be protected and enhanced. But if this interpretation of the editors' view is correct, I trust, Sir, you will use your influence to persuade them to think again, and I trust also that in making this suggestion I will not be accused, as I was at the meeting, of wishing to suggest that the Fleet Street editors were not unanimous in the opinions they pressed upon me. On the contrary, I admired their trade union solidarity, even though I felt that it derived from a mistaken understanding of our Bill.

Yours etc,
MICHAEL FOOT,
Department of Employment,
8 St James's Square, SW1.
December 23.

Raising money to restore cathedrals

From the Rev N. Allen Birtwhistle

Sir, So the appeal for funds to restore Canterbury Cathedral is being attacked with arguments similar to those that have been used against preserving Wesley's Chapel. While the cathedral is by far the more ancient, beautiful, and important building, the two have one other thing in common: each is regarded as the mother church of a world-wide communion.

Perhaps this is an appropriate time of the year to ask whether mothers are really necessary. Man is born of woman, even in this age of technology and equality, and man is born again in the church. Those gifts, in support of works of mercy, that all would acknowledge to be works of a living church, but which some would have us see as an alternative to spending money on ecclesiastical buildings, arise from the vision of those who have become aware of the presence of God.

Nowhere is that presence more deeply felt than in those buildings which, by their beauty, convey His grace and peace. The experience is not unknown to many visitors who would hardly claim to come as pilgrims.

How much poorer and more sordid would have been our lives down the centuries if these places had never been built, with sacrifice, to His glory. And how much we need that vision now.

Yours faithfully,
ALLEN BIRTWHISTLE,
Wesley's Chapel,
49 City Road, EC1.

From the Provost of Coventry Cathedral

Sir, I would like to add to the correspondence on the subject of cathedrals to make a point in relation to the particular predicament of Coventry Cathedral at the moment.

Its ministry has seized the opportunity of the rebirth of the cathedral to extend as widely and as deeply as possible the efforts in the direction of Christian renewal and reconciliation. Almost every penny that has been received from our main sources of income, namely visitors and tourists, has been ploughed into the ministry of the cathedral. Appeals for financial support for such an endeavour at a time of opportunity do not evoke the same enthusiastic support as, for perfectly good reasons, do appeals for the restoration of ancient and famous buildings.

This means that at a time when there are opportunities to develop our ministry to three or four times its present scope, we are compelled, in the face of inflation, to give all our energies to maintaining the ministry which exists.

Coventry Cathedral is of course fortunate in having a beautiful and secure new building, but we are disadvantaged in having to maintain the fourteenth century tower and spire—among the most beautiful in England—which are of no direct relevance to the ministry of the cathedral, but are of historical importance to the nation and of very real traditional importance to the city of Coventry.

It is likely that something like £40,000 will be needed to secure this tower and spire during the next few years and this presents us with a dilemma of having to divert sources of financial support for the active ministry to maintaining a tower and spire which have no direct reference to the real purpose for which the cathedral exists, namely, to extend the kingdom of God.

Yours faithfully,
H. C. N. WILLIAMS, Provost,
Cathedral Office,
Coventry.

From the Treasurer of Ely Cathedral

Sir, Immediate State help could be given to some Cathedrals if the Chancellor returned a fair proportion of the VAT being levied on repairs. Since the Spring of last year we have paid almost £20,000 in tax on the work being done on the great West Tower of Ely Cathedral—much of it coming from the pockets of donors who have already been taxed.

In answer to our entreaties the Customs and Excise inspectors insist that Cathedrals are for the propagation of religion and that we cannot expect the rebates normally given to businesses. This is not good enough. They know that we are in business too— properly registered—coping with the thousands of visitors and tourists.

Two-thirds of our working day is spent in providing facilities for them and two-thirds of our staff salaries go to provide the essential personnel—the maintenance men, the vergers, bedesmen, cleaners and the gardeners. A generous refund of VAT on repairs would give relief to our Cathedral and encouragement to others.

Yours,
GEORGE YOUELL,
The Almonry,
Ely,
Cambridgeshire.

Functions of a university

From Professor Percival Allen, FRS

Sir, A university is primarily a research institution. Secondarily, it provides thereby an environment where students serve their intellectual apprenticeships. Thirdly, a university is a major source of service and advice in the public sector. Alter the balance of these three activities, and it becomes indistinguishable from a polytechnic or a research institute.

Weakening of the universities would clearly endanger the reservoirs of fundamental and "strategic" understanding on which government and industry feed. But equally this would seriously erode the "Invisible Civil Service", that pervasive network of policy-making, management, etc, so heavily dependent on the unpaid services of academics. Their unstinted labour would have to be replaced from somewhere, and properly rewarded for the first time.

Yours faithfully,
PERCIVAL ALLEN,
Geology Department,
University of Reading,
Reading, Berkshire.

British Rail and the art market

From Mr J. E. Humphrey

Sir, I go with Geraldine Norman and Mr Ray Buckton (December 21) in questioning the investment antics of the British Rail Pension Fund in conjunction with Sotheby's. For my part I would lock up the trustees over the festive season in a room stuffed with fake ikons, plastic gnomes, elephant-foot umbrella stands, Monarchs of the Glen painted by numbers and souvenirs of Margate made in Hongkong. And, Sir, their guests would be those latter-day materialists who used to compile the ghastly array of digits known as *The Times*-Sotheby index—that speculators' vademecum which, mute on all criteria save price, and about as sensitive to beauty and craftsmanship as a mechanical grab, was a good deal responsible for this sort of patronage of the arts. One's only fear is that the aesthetic sensibility of hosts and guests is probably so immune from offence that the treatment would be painless.

Yours faithfully,
J. E. HUMPHREY,
9 Offington Gardens,
Worthing,
Sussex.

From Mr W. Leggatt Robinson

Sir, While not presuming to question the conclusions of your Sale Room Correspondent in her article of December 21, I beg to suggest that the 1925 purchase of a Gainsborough was not quite such a good example of an unwise art investment as she suggests. If Lord Duveen had put the £70,000 into War Loan 5 per cent (later 3½ per cent) instead, the stock would since have yielded about £125,000 in dividends in steadily depreciating currency, and would now be worth £14,350 as against the Gainsborough's current value of £300,000.

I am, Dear Sir,
Yours faithfully,
W. LEGGATT ROBINSON,
Sunfold,
Lewins Road,
Gerrards Cross,
Buckinghamshire.

Broadcasting watchdog

From Lord Willis

Sir, Mrs Mary Whitehouse's demand that the BBC should open its books, raises an interesting point about her organization The National Viewers' and Listeners' Association. Will she, on its behalf, make a reciprocal gesture and tell us a little more about its finances, structure and organization? The questions that come to mind are as follows:

1. Just how many members has the association?
2. Does she include in the figures of membership the total membership of all the organizations that may be affiliated to the association?
3. How is it financed?
4. Who are the other members of the committee and how are they elected?
5. How are the elections arranged? For example, are there nominations for the post of honorary general secretary and is there a ballot for the position?

Mrs Whitehouse has managed to secure a great deal of publicity for herself in recent years and now emerges at the drop of a hat to pronounce on radio and television topics on behalf of the association. It seems only reasonable, therefore, to ask that we should know for whom she speaks and the basis on which the association is run.

Yours faithfully,
WILLIS,
5 Shepherds Green,
Chislehurst,
Kent.

Old tube stations

From Councillor Joan Russell

Sir, May I clarify a point made in a letter in your columns from Mr Robbins, Managing Director, London Transport (December 4) which stated that planning permission was still awaited for the greatly needed improvements at Gloucester Road tube station. This council granted planning permission in November, 1973, for an excellent scheme for redevelopment of this almost empty site, which included some offices, shops, extra housing and a contribution to the modernization of the Underground station.

There is a prospective tenant for the office building. The application was referred to the GLC for planning permission in December, 1973. We are becoming increasingly frustrated and annoyed at the GLC's ill-advised attitude that the office development over the Underground station is excessive and that the developer should contribute more to the modernization of the tube station. The cost of rafting over the railway line runs into millions of pounds but the GLC continue to insist that the developers contribute more and that this tube station is not on a "first priority" list in any case. Thus the whole area remains derelict, dirty, rat-infested and degraded.

Twisting property owners' tails and trying to squeeze out more and more, in this case the highly reputable Legal and General Assurance, is becoming a dangerous sport and this application further illustrates the need either for the abolition of the GLC or a drastic reorganization and a reduction in their destructive and stultifying powers of interference.

Yours faithfully,
JOAN RUSSELL, Chairman,
Town Planning Committee
Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea,
Town Hall,
Kensington, W8.

Buses in convoy

From Mr Andrew Abdella

Sir, Mr J. B. Turner snappily observes in his letter (December 18) that "since London Transport adopted the convoy system, not a bus has been lost", but it is equally fair to say that many have been missed.

Yours faithfully,
ANDREW ABDELLA,
11 Gray's Inn Square, WC1.

SOCIAL NEWS

Princess Alice Duchess of Gloucester and Princess Alexandra the Hon Mrs Ogilvy celebrate their birthdays on Christmas Day.

Mr Graham Matthews wishes his friends, particularly those in Winchester and Sheffield, a very Happy Christmas and New Year

Miss Ann Sturgis and Mrs Caroline Cherwynd at Knightsbridge Apartments wish their friends a very Happy Christmas.

Birthdays today

Sir Denis Allen, 64; Mr Colin Cowdrey, 42; Brigadier Dame Barbara Cozens, 68; Sir John Denholm, 81; Mr E. Fernyhough, MP, 66; Sir Stafford Foster-Sutton, QC, 76; Dame Joan Kelleher, 59; Lord Llewelyn-Davies, 62; Sir Michael Rowe, QC, 73; Sir Kenneth Thompson, 65.

CHRISTMAS DAY: Lord Annan, 58; Captain Sir Noël Arkell, 81; Air Commandant Dame Veronica Ashworth, 64; Sir Noel Bowater, 82; Sir John Corah, 90; Mr Andrew Cruickshank, 67; Lord Energlyn, 62; Sir Lew Grade, 68; Viscount Hardinge, 69; Major-General Sir Noel Holmes, 63; Sir Charles Mott-Radclyffe, 63; Sir Geoffrey Organe, 66; Mr Justice Thesiger, 72.

BOXING DAY: Viscount Amory, 75; Sir Charles Clore, 70; Sir Eric de Normann, 81; Sir Ronald Holmes, 61; Mr T. K. Lyle, 71; Air Marshal Sir Aubrey Rumball, 70; Sir Mark Tennant, 63.

Today's engagements

Museums' Christmas Gallery: exhibits from 30 museums, National Book League, 7 Albemarle Street, Piccadilly, 10-5 (final day).
Regent's Park zoological gardens, London, 10 to dusk.
Christmas carol service and blessing of crib by Bishop of London, St Paul's Cathedral, 4.

Boxing Day

Festal Evensong, carols and procession, Westminster Abbey, 3.
HMS Belfast, floating naval museum, Pool of London, 11-4.
City walk: Royal palaces and the Queen's men, meet St James's Park station, 3.
London walk: A Place for all Seasons—More's Chelsea, meet Sloane Square station, 2.

Answers to the quiz on Page 10

T = True; F = False. 1, T. 2, T. 3, F. 4, T. 5, T. 6, F. 7, T. 8, F. 9, T. 10, F. 11, T. 12, F. 13, T. 14, F. 15, T. 16, F. 17, F. 18, T. 19, F. 20, F. 21, T. 22, F. 23, T. 24, F. 25, T. 26, T. 27, F. 28, F. 29, T. 30, T. 31, F. 32, T. 33, T. 34, T. 35, F. 36, T. 37, F. 38, F. 39, T. 40, F. 41, T. 42, F. 43, F. 44, T. 45, T. 46, T. 47, F. 48, T. 49, T. 50, F. 51, F. 52, T. 53, F. 54, T. 55, F. 56, F. 57, F. 58, T. 59, F. 60, F. 61, T. 62, F. 63, F. 64, T.

25 years ago

From The Times of Friday, December 23, 1949

Coconuts back

There is much popular satisfaction at the reappearance in our shops of the coconut. The place of the coconut in English life before the war was modest; many people, indeed, had never bought a coconut. None the less, there was a sense of national well-being in the general knowledge that coconuts were there for the buying.

But today the coconut is something of a novelty for many younger folk. Parents can now be seen buying a coconut or two, in spite of the comparatively high price, as a special treat for their children. The reappearance of the coconut so near to Christmas is accordingly opportune. Compared with the orange (or apple) it may tax the strength of a Christmas stocking, and as a decoration for a Christmas tree it has certain disadvantages. When bananas were re-introduced into England after the war some parents were surprised to find that children did not at first like them; it is not improbable that many children will feel the same way towards coconuts.

A Christmas photograph, released yesterday, showing the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh with Prince Edward, aged 10, and Prince Andrew, aged 14.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr C. J. Armstrong and Miss G. A. Clementson
The engagement is announced between Christopher John, younger son of Mr and Mrs J. Armstrong, of Toddington, Bedfordshire, and Geraldine Anne, only daughter of Dr and Mrs G. Clementson, of Croydon, Surrey.

Mr R. J. M. Cheyne and Miss S. J. Mann
The engagement is announced between Roderick James Morrison, only son of Mr and Mrs Patrick Cheyne, of West Mersea, Essex, and Susan Joannie, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Denys Mann, of Oxshott, Surrey.

Mr D. H. Keeling and Miss J. P. Lawson
The engagement is announced between David Howard, younger son of the late Mr R. V. Keeling and of Mrs R. V. Keeling, of Ivinghoe, Buckinghamshire, and Jane Patricia, only daughter of Mr and Mrs C. D. Lawson, of Hall Park, Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire.

Mr D. J. N. Nabarro and Miss K. Phillipp
The engagement is announced between Daniel, son of Mr Alan Nabarro, OBE, and Mrs Vera Nabarro, of 15a Avenue Road, London, NW8, and Kitty, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Hans Philipp, of Vancouver, Canada.

Dr A. J. N. Shepherd and Miss D. M. Hayman
The engagement is announced between Alistair John Newbolt Shepherd, eldest son of Mr and Mrs J. A. Shepherd, of Gayton, Wirral, Cheshire, and Diane Mary Hayman, only daughter of Mr and Mrs W. V. T. Hayman, of Sherwood, Nottingham.

Mr R. J. Taylor and Miss A. V. Locher de Werdenberg
The engagement is announced between Roger John, elder son of Mr and Mrs H. Taylor, of Wembley, Middlesex, and Angela Vreneli, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs J. P. P. Locher de Werdenberg, of Wellswood, Torquay, Devon.

Dr T. R. S. Bailey and Dr E. F. Harper
The engagement is announced between Simon, eldest son of Mr and Mrs H. S. W. Bailey, Melbourne House, Shepshed, Leicestershire, and Elizabeth, eldest daughter of Mr J. Harper, OBE, and Mrs Harper, Oakfield, Salwick, Preston, Lancashire.

Mr C. A. Egremont and Miss H. A. Ward
The engagement is announced between Christopher Andrew, elder son of Mr and Mrs Donald S. Egremont, of Redlynch, near Salisbury, Wiltshire, and Heather Annabel, only daughter of Mr and Mrs James Lister Ward, of Minstead, near Lyndhurst, Hampshire.

Mr K. V. McKay and Miss D. M. Davie
The engagement is announced between Keith V. McKay, son of Mr and Mrs V. McKay, of Ilford, Essex and Diana Margaret, daughter of Professor and Mrs Donald Davie, of Stanford, California, United States.

Mr M. A. Nagle and Mlle M. M. S. des Moutis
The engagement is announced between Michael, youngest son of Major and Mrs B. Nagle, Hove, Sussex, and Marie-Christine, only daughter of M and Mme Jacques des Moutis, of Manlay, Bourgogne, France.

Mr A. P. L. Roberts and Mrs B. K. Toms
The engagement is announced between Mr Antony Phillip Lashmar Roberts, of 64 Wilbury Grange, Hove, Sussex, and Mrs Beryl Kelway Toms, of Khognae, Ecchinswell.

Mr P. G. Wakeford and Miss C. E. Jones
The engagement is announced between Peter, younger son of Mr and Mrs Robert Wakeford, The Hatch, Staverton, Daventry, and Catherine, daughter of Mr and Mrs Dudley Jones, Manor Farm, Helidon, Daventry.

Mr A. Ward and Miss S. S. Andrews
The engagement is announced between Mr Alan Ward, eldest son of Mr and Mrs G. Ward, of Sydney, Australia, and Miss Sheila Sylvia Andrews, only daughter of Mr and Mrs L. Andrews, of Great Yarmouth, Norfolk.

Mr N. Bailey and Mrs A. Buchanan
The engagement is announced between Mr Norman Bailey, son of the late James and Isabella Bailey, of Wallsend-on-Tyne, and Mrs Ann Buchanan, of 10 Alwyne Square, Canonbury, London, N.1, daughter of the late Baroness Cynthia von Stutterheim and Captain J. A. Davison, M.C.

Commander F. J. C. Godfree and Mrs D. M. Walters
The engagement is announced between Commander Frederick John Cossey-Godfree, Royal Navy (retd), of Moreton, High Bannerdown, Batheaston, and Dorothy May Walters (nee Murray), of The Queen Anne House, Batheaston.

Mr R. A. McKellar and Miss M. McAuley
The engagement is announced between Ronald Alexander, elder son of the late Mr and Mrs Alexander McKellar, and Maureen, daughter of Mr and Mrs James McAuley.

Mr P. G. Manley and Miss E. M. Dancer
The engagement is announced between Peter George, third son of Mr and Mrs G. E. L. Manley, 136 Ebury Street, SW1, and Elaine Mary, only daughter of Dr and Mrs J. B. Dancer, 29 East Street, Wareham, Dorset.

Mr M. C. Pickess and Miss S. Grover
The engagement is announced between Malcolm, son of Mr and Mrs C. Pickess, of Longhill Road, London, and Sandra, daughter of Mr and Mrs J. Grover, of Bracknell, Berkshire.

Mr M. G. Taylor and Miss A. M. de S. Carey
The engagement is announced between Greville, elder son of Mr and Mrs K. G. Taylor, of Sutton, Surrey, and Anne, eldest daughter of the late Deryck de S. Carey and Mrs Margaret Carey, of Wisborough Green, Sussex.

Mr E. Wilde and Miss K. A. Atkins
The engagement is announced between Edward, only son of Mr and Mrs Kenneth Wilde, of Croydon, Surrey, and Karen Ann, only daughter of Mr and Mrs George Atkins, of Kingswood, Surrey.

University news

Cambridge

Latest appointments include:
SELWYN COLLEGE: Honorary fellowship, Professor L. C. Knights, PhD, professor emeritus of English literature; fellowship and college lectureship in economics, K. J. Coutts, BA; fellowship and college lectureship in mathematics, R. D. Harding, PhD (St John's); research fellowship, P. J. Statham, BA.
TRINITY COLLEGE: Visiting fellow commoners, Dr J. Richard Gott III, Leverhulme visiting fellow at the Institute of Astronomy and assistant professor designate at Princeton; and Dr R. A. Binns, reader in geology, University of Western Australia.

Sussex

Appointments:
Dr S. Shall to the chair of biochemistry; Mr R. A. Becher to a chair of education.

Grants:
£16,103 (three years) from Medical Research Council for high performance liquid chromatography (Professor A. W. Johnson); £12,650 from P & O Steam Navigation Co: long-term development of world shipping, £37,035 (four years) from Royal Society: Professor Longuet-Higgins and support staff, £25,575 (two years); Science Research Council: measure of properties of low temperature plasma of HeI (Professor D. T. Brewer), £11,655 (three years) from SRC: membrane properties and morphogenesis in Acetabularia (Dr B. C. Goodwin), £12,050 (two years) from SRC: synthesis of the Vitamin B12 Chromophore (Professor A. W. Johnson), £10,660 (two years) from SRC: studies in structural chemistry (Professor R. Mason), £15,675 (three years) from SRC: deep sea bioluminescence (Dr P. McCapra) £10,635 (three years) from SRC: application of "real space" crystallographic techniques to molecular solids and layer compounds (Dr J. A. Venables), £150,210 (five years) from SRC: direct observation of processes occurring at surface and interfaces (Dr J. A. Venables), £14,805 (three years) from UKAEA: inelastic energy losses during atomic collision (Professor M. W. Thompson).

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Marriages

Sir Humphry Wakefield and The Hon Katharine Baring
The marriage took place recently in London between Sir Humphry Wakefield, and the Hon Katharine Baring, daughter of the late Lord Howick of Glendale and Lady Mary Howick.

Mr G. Eley and Mrs H. Pratesi
The marriage took place at St Mary-le-Bow, Cheapside, London, on December 19, of Mr Gavin Eley, younger son of Sir Geoffrey and Lady Eley, of The Change House, Great Yeldham, Essex, and Mrs Holly Pratesi, daughter of Mr and Mrs Bruce Urquhart, of Craigston, Craigston Castle, Aberdeenshire. Canon John Collins of St Paul's Cathedral, officiated.

Latest appointments

Latest appointments include:
Mr Walter R. Smith, deputy director general of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food's Agricultural Development and Advisory Service, to be the ministry's Welsh Secretary in succession to Mr Hywel E. Evans, who retires at the end of March.

Latest wills

King leaves £72,609

King Gustaf VI Adolf of Sweden left estate in England and Wales valued at £72,609 (duty paid, £23,296).
Mr Frederick Albert Swinborne, of Braintree, engineer, left £254,597 net (duty paid, £11,359). After specific bequests he left the residue to be applied by his executors for the benefit of past and present employees of A. Swinborne Ltd and their spouses and issue.
Mr Albert Harry Standley, of Birmingham, company director, left £32,601 net (duty paid, £5,178). After bequests totalling £5,000 and effects be left half the residue each to The Give a Girl Health Fund, c/o the *Sunday Mercury*, Birmingham, and the Imperial Cancer Research Fund.
Other estates include (net, before duty paid; further duty may be payable on some estates):
Howard, Lady Cecilia, of Castle Howard, wife of Mr George Howard, and daughter of the eighth Duke of Grafton (duty paid, £21,650) £91,200
Jones, Mr Edward Bernard, of Prenton, Merseyside (duty paid, £7,846) £90,205
McDermott, Mr Francis Joseph, Stockport, intestate (duty paid, £31,438) £104,654
Norton, Sir Walter Charles, of Westminster, solicitor and company director (duty paid, £4,309) £70,588
Tedbury, Mr John Lindley, of Godalming, (duty paid, £19,270) £98,314
Thompson, Mr William Gordon, of Sheffield (duty paid, £1,949) £61,253
Todd, Mr Herbert William, of Darlington, co Durham (duty paid, £38,015) £80,285
Williams, Mr John Benjamin, of Hirwaun, Glamorgan, intestate (duty paid, £16,812) .. £76,106

New Catholic bishop

The Right Rev Mervyn Alexander, aged 49, has been appointed Roman Catholic Bishop of Clifton, whose diocese covers Gloucestershire, Somerset, Wiltshire and Avon. He has been auxiliary bishop since March, 1972.

Princess Alexandra will be present at a gala concert by the Insurance Orchestral Society, for the benefit of the Insurance Charities and the Eric Baines' Memorial Fund, at the Festival Hall, on January 20.

Science report

Psychology: Parrot that watches words

A chance observation on a pet suggests that parrots may think before they speak. The observation applied only to imitated sounds that the parrot would not utter naturally and consisted of the regular contraction of the pupils of the bird's eyes 200 milliseconds before it uttered. Spontaneous squawks are not accompanied by such manifestations.

The phenomenon was first noticed by Professor Richard Gregory, of the Medical Research Council Brain and Perception Laboratory, in Bristol, in a parrot named Seraphita, belonging to his sister-in-law. Fascinated by what looked like some kind of eye-brain "crosstalk", he took the bird into his laboratory to check his chance observation with proper measurements, which he made with videotape records of the pupil diameter. Those were transferred to film on which an oscilloscope trace of the parrot's speech could be superimposed to give the time relationship between the two.

The pupil diameter in this particular species of parrot, the yellow fronted Amazon variety (*Amazona ochrocephala panamensis*), usually does not change even for large variations in illumination. On the other hand, comparison in the laboratory with a non-talking, blue-fronted Amazon parrot showed that utterance is not the only behaviour associated with changes in pupil diameter. The non-talking bird displayed a similar response when picking up unfamiliar objects.

That may suggest that the phenomenon is associated with difficult tasks in general. Handling unfamiliar objects may require increased depth in the field of vision and the lens may also be accommodated for better vision. Pupil changes also occurred when the parrot seemed to be attending to the observer, but only when the latter supplied some of the exclamatives usually associated with parrots, "Pretty boy", "Hello", and the parrot's name, for example.

The relationship between pupil contraction and utterance could simply be a case of neural cross talk, perhaps between the motor neurones controlling the pupils and those operating the vocal cords. That would not, however, account for the fact that the one is in advance of the other. Another possibility is that the flashing of the jet black pupils surrounded by brilliant gold irises is part of a mechanism for signalling to other parrots. Other animals similary combine aural and visual signals, often in cases of alarm.

By Nature-Times News Service
Source: *Nature*, December 20/27 (252, 636; 1974)
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Christmas Day services

ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL: HC, 11.30 am (Byrd for 4 voices); 8, M, 10.30, the Dean, TD and Jub (Britten in C); HC, 11.30 (Rubbra). Missa Cantuariensis, Tut. This day Christ was born (Byrd). Festal E, 3.15, Mag and ND (Stanford in C). A. For unto us a child is born (Handel). Hodie, Christus natus est (Sweelinck).
WESTMINSTER ABBEY: Eve, HC, 11.30 pm; 8, M, 10.30 (Vaughan Williams in G). A. Hodie Christus natus est (Sweelinck), the Dean; Sung Eucharist, 11.30 (Jackson in G); E, 3 (Watson in E). A, Sing lullaby (Howells).
SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL: Eve, Midnight Eucharist, 11.30 pm, the Bishop. Parish Communion, 9, Family Communion, 11, Canon Peter Penwarden. Carols.
CHAPEL ROYAL, St James's Palace: HC, 8.30, and 11.15, Carol, A babe lies in the cradle (Corner), Canon J. S. D. Mansel.
THE QUEEN'S CHAPEL OF THE SAVOY (public welcomed): HC, 8.30; HC, 11 (Darke in F), Canon Edwyn Young.
ROYAL NAVAL COLLEGE CHAPEL, Greenwich (public admitted): Family Communion, 10.15, Rev George Knight.
GRAY'S INN CHAPEL (public welcomed): HC, 8 am.
HM TOWER OF LONDON: Eve, HC, 11.30 pm, Missa à 4 voci (Byrd).
TEMPLE CHURCH, Fleet Street (public welcomed): HC, 8.30 and after MP, 11.15, TD and Jub (Stanford in G). Carol, In the bleak midwinter (Darke), the Master.
GUARDS CHAPEL, Wellington Barracks, Birdcage Walk (public welcomed): Eve, Choral HC, 11.30 pm; HC, 8, M, 11, Band: Scots Guards, Rev R. T. J. K. Wood. A, Thou must leave thy lowly dwelling (Berlioz): HC, 12.
ROYAL HOSPITAL, Chelsea (public admitted): Eve & Midnight Mass 11.30 pm; HC, 8.30 and noon, Parade Service, 11, A, Hallelujah Chorus, Rev E. W. Evans.
ST CLEMENT DANES (RAF Church) (public welcomed): HC, 8.30, Choral Eucharist, 11, (Mozart in G), A, O magnum mysterium (Victoria), the Resident Chaplain.
CHAPEL ROYAL, Hampton Court Palace (public welcomed): HC, 8.30, M, 11 (Sumsion in G), A, A sound of Angels (Tye).

ALL HALLOWS BY THE TOWER: Eve, Midnight Mass 11.30 pm; HC (said), 21.

ALL SAINTS', Margaret Street: HM, Midnight (Mozart in D), the Vicar; LM, 8; HM 11 (Schubert in G), Rev John Slater.
CHELSEA PARISH CHURCH, Sydney Street: Eve, Midnight Eucharist Prebendary H. Lansby; HC, 7.15, 8.15, 10, 11; Festival Service 11, Prebendary Harold Loasby.
CHRIST CHURCH, Chelsea: Eve, Midnight Communion 11.30 pm; HC, 7, 8, 12, Christmas Family Service 11, Prebendary F. A. Plachaud.
GROSVENOR CHAPEL, South Audley Street: Eve, SE Midnight Consolation Mass (Mozart) Rev J. B. Gaskell; HC, 8.15, Solemn Eucharist 11, Missa brevissima (Cascidini), Rev J. B. Gaskell.
HOLY SEPULCHRE, Holborn Viaduct: Eve, Blessing of Crib and Sung Eucharist, 11.30 pm.
HOLY TRINITY, Brompton Road: HC, 7, 8 and 12, HC, 9, the Vicar; Family Service, 11, the Vicar; E (said), 6.
HOLY TRINITY, Prince Consort Road: 5 services, Eve, HC, 11.30 pm; HC, 8.30, 10; M and HC (sung), 11, Prebendary D. W. Cleverley Ford.
HOLY TRINITY, Kingsway: Eve, Midnight Eucharist, 11.30 pm; HC, 9; SE 10.30, Rev John Arrowsmith.
ST ALBAN'S, Holborn: Eve, Midnight, Mass de Minuit (Charpentier); LM, 8, HM, 10.30, Little organ Mass (Haydn), the Vicar.
ST BARTHOLOMEW-THE-GREAT PRIORY (AD 1123): Eve, Choral Eucharist 11.45 (Byrd 3-part); HC 9, M (said) 10.15, Choral Eucharist, 11, (Byrd 3-part), A, Sweet was the song (Bennett), the Rector.
ST BRIDE'S, Fleet Street: Eve, Choral Eucharist, Midnight; HC, 8.30; Choral Eucharist, 11.
ST GEORGE'S, Hanover Square: HC, 8.15; Sung Eucharist 11 (Jackson in G), Rev W. M. Atkins. Mot, Nativity Carol (Rutter).
ST GILES-IN-THE-FIELDS, St Giles High Street: Eve, HC, 11.45 pm; HC, 8, 12; M, P, 11, Rev G. C. Taylor.
ST JAMES'S, Piccadilly: HC, 8.15, Eucharist 9.15, Rev J. L. W. Robinson; M, 11, Rev W. P. Baddeley; HC, 12.15.
ST MARGARET'S, Westminster: HC, 8.15, 12.15, Canon D. L. Edwards; M, 11, TD (Vaughan Williams), Carol, I sing three white.
ST MARTIN-IN-THE FIELDS: Eve, Midnight HC, 11.30 pm; HC, 7, 8, Family Communion 9.45, M, 11.15, HC 12.30; E, 3.30.
ST MARY ABBOTS, Kensington: Eve, Midnight Mass, 11.30 pm; HC, 7, 8, 12.15 Sung Eucharist, 9.30, Rev C. C. Rogers, M, 11.15, Rev H. L. O. Rees, A, Hodie (Sweelinck).
ST MARY'S, Bryanston Square: Eve, HC, 11.45 pm; HC, 8.30 and 12; M, 11, Carols, the Rector.
ST MARYLEBONE PARISH CHURCH: Eve, Midnight Mass, 11.30 pm (Schubert in G), Prebendary F. Coventry, HC, 8, 11, Rev P. Harding. Missa brevis, Sancti Joannis de Deo (Haydn). Mot, Resonet, in laudibus (Handel).
ST MICHAEL'S, Chester Square: Eve, HC, 11.30 pm; HC, 8.15, M, 11, Family Service, the Vicar; HC, 12.
ST PAUL'S, Wilton Place, Knightsbridge: Eve, SE, 11.30 pm; HC, 8, 9, SE, 11.
ST PAUL'S, Robert Adam Street: Eve, Midnight Communion, 11.30; M, 11, Bishop Goodwin Hudson.
ST PETER'S, Eaton Square: Eve, Midnight Mass, 11.45 pm (Charpentier), Rev D. B. Tillyer, HC, 8.15, Sung Eucharist, 11 (Stanford in C), Mot, Hodie Christus natus est (Sweelinck), Roy J. C. Welsby.
ST SIMON ZELOTES, Chelsea: Eve, HC, 11.45 pm; M, 12.10; M, 11.
ST STEPHEN'S, Rochester Row: Eve, Blessing of Crib and Midnight Eucharist, 11.45 pm; HC, 8, 12.15; M, 11, E (said), 5.
ST STEPHEN'S, Gloucester Road: Eve, Midnight Mass; LM, 7, 8, HM, 11, the Vicar.
ST VEDAST, Foster Lane: SM, 11, Regina caeli (Perotin), Mot, Vertum caro (Schütz), Canon Afrom-Bertram.
ST COLUMBA'S (Church of Scotland), Pont St: Eve, Candlelight Service, 11.30 pm; HC, 10, 11, Rev Dr J. Fraser McLuskey.
CROWN COURT CHURCH (Church of Scotland), Russell Street, Covent Garden: Eve, Service, 11.15 pm; M, 11, Christmas morning service.
WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL: Eve, Vigil Service, 11.15 pm, Pontifical Mass, Midnight (Mozart in D); LM, 7, 8, 9, 11, Pontifical Mass, 10.30, Missa brevis (Mozart in D); SV, 3.30.
THE ORATORY, SW: Eve, Midnight Mass, 11.30 pm (Dvorak in D); SM, 11, Sancti Bernardi offida (Haydn), Mot, O magnum mysterium, (Victoria); E, 3.30, Mot, Quem pastores.
ASSUMPTION, Warwick St, Midnight Mass (Mozart in C).
ST PATRICK'S, Soho Square: Eve, SM (Midnight), Messa Pastorale (Travaglia); Laetentur Caeli (Gartuna); SM, 10.30 am Missa in Nativitate Domini (Pinel), Hodie Christus natus (Nanini).
THE JESUIT CHURCH, Farm Street: LM, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 6 pm.
KENSINGTON UNITED REFORMED CHURCH (Presbyterian/Congregational), Allen Street: Eve, Service 11.45 pm; M, 11, Rev E. G. Miller.
CENTRAL HALL, Westminster: 11, Dr W. J. Bennett.
CITY TEMPLE, Holborn Viaduct: Family Service, 11.
WESTMINSTER CHAPEL, Buckingham Gate: 11, Rev David W. Marshall.

OBITUARY

SIR IVISON MACADAM

Former Director General of Chatham House

Sir Ivison Macadam, KCVO, CBE, secretary and Director-General of the Royal Institute of International Affairs 1929-55, died on Sunday at the age of 80. He was editor of the *Annual Register of World Events* 1947-73. He was founder president and trustee of the National Union of Students.

He put the *Annual Register* on a sound financial footing and strengthened its worldwide reputation by bringing in a wide range of specialist contributors. Sales expanded considerably, particularly in the United States.

At Chatham House (the Royal Institute of International Affairs) he is remembered for his Scottish drive and application in pure "admin" matters. He organized persons, events, and work with equal stern objectivity, and got a lot done accordingly, though sometimes making opponents by his single-mindedness on behalf of Chatham House. He worked early, late and continuously, and he never shunned unpleasantnesses which fell to him to handle: of which in the troubled decade 1929-39, and with a smaller but perhaps keener RIIA membership, there were quite a few, notably during the so-called "appeasement" period.

The second son of Colonel W. Ivison Macadam, Professor of Chemistry, Edinburgh, he was educated at Melville College, Edinburgh, King's College London and Christ's College, Cambridge. In the First World War he saw service with City of Edinburgh (Fortress) Royal Engineers and had a searching experience as OC the Royal *Engineers in the Archangel*, North Russian Expeditionary Force. He was three times mentioned in dispatches.

For a period in the Second World War he was Assistant Director-General and Principal Assistant Secretary, Ministry of Information.

A former colleague remembers him about the year 1925 when he was "bringing to administrative perfection" the National Union of Students, which was then in Endsleigh Gardens or Endsleigh Street, Bloomsbury.

He put in very hard work at establishing, developing, and dovetailing into the International Union the new NUS in this country, and his tall, lean, blond-capped figure was a familiar sight around Gordon Square and parts of the emergent new campus of the University of London. The University Union was an old wartime hut in Malet Street which lasted up to the Second War; and in its early days the fellows back from the First War forgathered there, Ivison coming occasionally among them, and all of them prematurely matured by their wartime experiences. He was a remarkably good public debater, speaking with a soft Edinburgh burr which he never lost.

He married in 1934 Caroline Ladd, daughter of Elliott Corbett, of Portland, Oregon. They had two sons and two daughters.

AVA VISCOUNTESS WAVERLEY

Ava Viscountess Waverley, who died on December 22, was the widow of Sir John Anderson, later Viscount Waverley.

Only daughter of the great historian and friend of France, J. E. Courtenay Bodley, Ava (born in 1896) was brought up in a climate of rigorous intellectual discipline. The slightest grammatical error would be punished by long standings in the corner. The château at Sucy-en-Brie, near Paris, was at the turn of the century filled with the formidable frock-coated representatives of the Académie Française. The world revolved largely round the British Embassy in the Rue du Faubourg Saint Honoré. Lord Dufferin and Ava, HM Ambassador from 1891 to 1896 was a friend of the Bodleys, and it was after the Ambassador himself that the Bodleys' blonde daughter was quite fittingly named.

Bodley died in 1925. A few months previously his daughter had married Ralph Wigram, then a young secretary in the Paris Embassy. It was an Ideal match. Sensitive, gifted, ambitious, extremely shy, Wigram, who had been drawn to social work after the War but who had nevertheless entered the Diplomatic Service in 1920, had need of a wife who would draw him out and see that his talents were recognized. But only a year or so after the marriage "Wigs" contracted polio, becoming a permanent cripple.

"Wigs" himself died in 1936 but in 1933 he had come back to head the Central Department of the Foreign Office. In that capacity he played a major role in the high diplomacy of the early 1930's. Thanks largely to his wife, the house in Lord North Street became a centre of political activity. Sir Winston Churchill was a frequent visitor. Lord Vansittart a presiding genius. The brilliant young couple formed a "salon" for the pro-French and anti-Nazi school of thought.

After her husband's death his widow continued the tradition. With the State visits of 1937 and 1938 she had much to do. By this time she had become a political personage in her own right. Statesmen and Ambassadors constantly asked her opinion. She knew everybody. All the great houses and Embassies were open to her and even if the invitation was sometimes contrived, nobody would dream of putting her off except with a very valid excuse. Nor did they usually want to. She could be maddening, she could be catty, but she was always good value and appreciated as such. Besides, it did not harm to keep on the right side of the Cumaean Sybil in whom even *Prime Ministers had been known* to confide.

In 1940 she met her match. Sir John Anderson, as he then was, was one of the most powerful men in Britain. An extraordinary career in the Civil Service had been followed by the Governorship of Bengal and entry into politics. When Ava came into his life he was Home Secretary. If anything had happened to Sir Winston Churchill and to Anthony Eden, he might very well have been Prime Minister. To this pawky and rather prudish Scot Ava was a wee woman who could not be supposed to know much about politics but who could initiate him into the mysterious ways of culture and high society. He proposed and was accepted. They were married in October, 1941, when he was Lord President of the Council.

An even more influential "salon" was the result. Later, when the Tory Government fell, Lord Waverley, as he then was, was made chairman of the Port of London Authority and of the Covent Garden Opera. It must be admitted that she was not herself very musical and had *no great natural taste, but she had high intelligence and could* therefore absorb enough of the background to converse with the cognoscenti who rubbed shoulders in her box with the socially great.

What does one chiefly remember about Ava? Beyond a little gardening and some early practice in painting she had no hobbies. She published nothing, she did not play or sing. Though charitably inclined and sincerely religious, she took no part in public life. She was no good on committees. Politics, as such, interested her very little. Why then was she so extraordinary? Why did she probably exercise more indirect influence than any woman of her generation? Partly, no doubt, because of her astonishing memory, her immense erudition, and her superb gifts as a writer of letters. But chiefly because she could detect talent—any talent. She had indeed an infallible nose for the first class and a sincere detestation of the mediocre.

She had no hesitation in showing up the pompous and the dull and in flattering the gifted. In her presence it was extremely difficult not to be indiscreet. That was why so many were frightened of her. "But don't you *want* to be Foreign Secretary?" "Why *is* it that you dislike the PM so?" Insidiously the voice echoes on. The charm, the spell, can never be forgotten.

SIR HARRY VERNEY

An Asquithian Liberal

Sir Harry Verney, Bt, DSO, died yesterday at the age of 93. He was Liberal MP for North Bucks, 1910-18 and held office under H. H. Asquith.

His death breaks a direct link with Florence Nightingale who was his great-aunt and whom he knew well. He edited *Florence Nightingale at Harley Street* and also *The Verneys of Claydon*, a new edition of the *The Verney Memoirs*. He was a liberal both in political sympathies and in his life. He had an ability to illuminate ideas in others and to deflate pomposity with kindliness and humour.

Harry Calvert Williams Verney, born June 7, 1881, was the only son of Captain Sir Edmund Verney, RN, who served in the Crimean War, and Margaret, daughter of Sir John and Lady Sarah Hay Williams of Rhianva, Anglesey. He was educated at Harrow and Balliol College and in 1910 was elected member of Parliament for North Buckinghamshire, holding this seat until 1918. From 1911 to 1914 he was Principal Private Secretary to Mr Birrell, Chief Secretary for Ireland, and in 1914 he was appointed Parliamentary Secretary to the Board of Agriculture. He regarded his membership of Asquith's government as one of the most important contributions that he had made to public life, and with a certain pride he would refer to himself as the last surviving member of this government.

He served in the 1914-18 War in France and Mesopotamia, attaining the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel and being mentioned in dispatches three times and receiving the DSO in 1918.

In 1911 he married Lady Rachel Bruce, daughter of the 9th Earl of Elgin. They had five sons and three daughters, all of whom survive him.

From 1931 to 1955 he resided in Anglesey. During these years his great interest was an endeavour to develop the countryside without detriment to rural amenities. At Red Wharf Bay he and his wife built an hotel, a shop for the sale of objects of beauty, a few well sited houses and a hall in which delightful concerts and exhibitions were held. Many people benefited from the rest and peace they found at Wern y Wylan.

In 1955 he returned with Lady Rachel to live at Claydon. Although her death in 1964 was a severe blow to him, as they had been inseparable through a long life, he continued to maintain his interest in and personal concern for his many friends and for all humanitarian enterprises.

MR ROBERT BEVAN

Mr Robert Alexander Bevan, CBE, who died on December 20, was a former chairman of S. H. Benson, Ltd, and a former president of the Institute of Practitioners in Advertising. He was educated at Westminster and Christ Church, Oxford, and joined Bensons in 1923.

For a short period at the beginning of the 1939-45 War, he was director of General Production at the Ministry of Information, but later joined the Navy. He saw service with the Free French and in destroyers. Towards the end of the war he was appointed, as a captain RNVR, Chief of Naval Information, with the Admiralty Delegation in Washington.

In 1958 he was nominated by the Foreign Office as the Government representative on an international committee to investigate the United Nations public information services. Later that year he was appointed by the then Board of Trade as a member of the Advisory Council on Middle East Trade.

He was also a member of the Board of Trade's Export Publicity Council and of the Ministry of Education's National Advisory Council on Art Education.

André Jolivet, the French composer, former musical director of the Comédie Française, has died in Paris. He was 69.

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هكذا من الأصل

Rugby Union

Even higher honours beckon as Cotton is appointed leader

By Peter West
Rugby Correspondent

Fran Cotton, the Coventry, Lancashire and British Lions prop, will captain England in their first international of the season, against Ireland in Dublin on January 18. He succeeds Pullin, who was demoted to the Rest XV last Saturday but, by outhooking Wheeler, gave notice that he is by no means a spent force.

It became apparent, when the selectors named Cotton to lead the senior side in last week's final trial, that to all intents and purposes they had decided the time had come for a change at the top. But there is no reason to suppose that England will not go through the home season—and the short tour of Australia next May—with a Lancastrian in charge of their fortunes on the field as well as a Lancastrian, Burgess, masterminding their efforts as coach.

It would prolong an association forged not just through their county's successes in recent years. Cotton led and Burgess coached the North-West Counties side that became, in 1972, the first English provincial combination to beat an All Blacks team.

"We have had a little success together before", said Cotton, with due modesty, yesterday. But then he paid Burgess a handsome compliment. "He is a terrific person, not just as a coach but also a man."

As for his country's prospects, he added: "I think we have the players to be very successful. We've got a very good pack and a lot of scoring potential in the backs. What we have to do is cut out the mistakes we have been making in recent internationals. We need to tighten up defensively."

Cotton, who will be 27 on January 3, was educated at Newton le Willows Grammar School and Loughborough Colleges. He now teaches at Coventry Preparatory School. Having played for England Under-23 against the Fijians in 1969, he won the first of his 11 caps later that season, against Scotland in the centenary match at Murrayfield. He has made three tours with England—to the Far East in 1971, to South Africa in 1972 and to New Zealand in 1973. And he played in all four internationals in South Africa last summer, when he confirmed his status as a tight-head prop of the highest class and was the only new Lion to captain the side. He can also play, of course, on the loose-head side.

His father played rugby league matches for Warrington and Great Britain, and his brother also played the professional game. Fran himself has staunchly resisted a number of offers to cross his Rubicon. In his chosen code, now, even higher honours beckon. He must be a potential captain of the Lions in New Zealand in 1977.

Of the 30 players originally chosen for the final trial only Geoffrey Richards, the Wasps full back, and Hendy, the St Ives flanker, have been omitted from the training party. Richards, however, might still get in. The selectors still have to announce another full back in addition to Rossborough, whose jaw injury is proving disturbingly slow to mend. They probably want to take another look at Richards, Jorden, Hare and Gullick, of Lancashire, who had a good area trial, are all waiting in the wings. I feel sorry for Hendy, after his two good trials, but his time may come.

Of those who, apart from Rossborough, pulled out of the final trial, Stevens, Ralston, Dixon, Neary, Evans and Wordsworth now appear again. And of these, by far the most interesting name is that of Wordsworth. I feared that because he missed the University match for Cambridge, as well as both trials, he might have lost his chance. This gesture of confidence in his potential should be good for his morale.

I believe Dixon, Neary and Evans are making a good recovery from injury or illness, but the selectors must be worried, not only about Rossborough but also Stevens's back strain and Ralston's knee. The fact that their party includes five lock forwards need not imply that they are thinking of playing Uttley in his Lions' position as blind-side flanker. Burgess, no doubt, wanted 16 forwards to make up two packs. Mantell, who played out of position, at No 8, in the trial, may well be required to do so again. And Ripley's form is such, surely, that Dixon will train as a flanker.

It is good to see Rollitt challenging again after a long time in the wilderness, and, likewise Tony Richards (I have wrongly been calling him Alan) who has been one of the best wings in the land for some years. Beaumont has earned his selection, and must get better with experience.

ENGLAND PARTY: Full back: P. A. Rossborough (Coventry). Wing three-quarters: D. J. Duckham (Coventry), A. J. Morley (Bristol), P. J. Squires (Harrogate), A. A. Richards (Fylde). Centres: K. Smith (Roundhay), P. J. Preece (Coventry), P. J. Warfield (Cambridge University), G. Evans (Coventry). Stand-off halves: A. G. B. Old (Middlesbrough), A. Wordsworth (Cambridge University). Scrum-halves: J. G. Webster (Moseley), S. J. Smith (Gala). Props: F. Cotton (Coventry, captain), C. White (Gosforth), M. A. Burton (Gloucester), C. E. Stevens (Penzance and Newlyn). Hookers: P. Wheeler (Leicester), J. V. Pullin (Bristol). Locks: R. M. Utley (Gosforth), N. E. Horton (Moseley), N. Mantell (Rosslyn Park), C. W. Ralston (Richmond), W. Beaumont (Fylde). Back row forwards: P. J. Dixon (Gosforth), A. Neary (Broughton Park), A. G. Ripley (Rosslyn Park), D. M. Rollitt (Bristol), J. A. Watkins (Gloucester).

Wordsworth: confidence in his potential should boost his morale.

Boyle comes in for Scottish tour

By Peter West

For those rugby followers who may think that a little fresh air on Boxing Day afternoon would not come amiss there is a restricted but attractive programme of matches. Coventry v Moseley tops the bill in the Midlands, closely followed by the encounter between Northampton and Harlequins.

London Welsh are shortly on the move, as ever at this time, to Wales, where they meet Llanelli on Boxing Day and Swansea on Friday. Likewise, London Scottish go home to Scotland, for matches against Edinburgh Academicals (Thursday) and West of Scotland (Saturday). The Welsh will be without J. P. R. Williams on Boxing Day, when Llanelli expect to field, for the first time this season, all of their five British Lions in South Africa.

The Scottish party includes their former captain and international forward, Alistair Boyle, now a doctor in Birmingham and a member of Moseley. He has not played for his old club for three years. Another traveller will be the full-back and vice-captain, George Stevenson, who played his first senior game of the season last week after being out with a slipped disc.

Clive Woodward is fit to resume at stand-off half for Harlequins at Franklin's Gardens, so Bob Hiller bows gracefully out having piloted them from that position to a notable victory over Newport last week. In London on Boxing Day Saracens and Blackheath, at Southgate, have the first-class field to themselves. Blackheath include Jonathan Hartley, England's 19 group scrum-half on the summer tour of Australia.

There should, as ever, be a big crowd at Welford Road on Friday for Leicester's traditional fixture with the Barbarians. The touring side have chosen an extremely strong and attractive XV, although Chris Ralston must be a doubtful starter.

Cricket

Spin on a wearing pitch gives England best hope of victory

From John Woodcock
Cricket Correspondent
Melbourne, Dec 23

In so far as they can be, after their experiences of the first two Test matches, England are in good heart for the third, which starts here on Boxing Day. They look like having a full party to choose from, and, if it is difficult to imagine them bowling Australia out twice on so slow a pitch, they should end having less hazardous themselves than in Brisbane or Perth.

Since the Melbourne Cricket Ground was levelled and relaid for the Olympic Games in 1956 the pitch there has been short of pace. This season it seems, if anything, to have become even slower, like the Adelaide final. To be confident of finding a fast Test pitch these days, other than in Perth, I am not sure where in the world one would go. Not to the West Indies or South Africa, and certainly not to India or Pakistan: it might have to be to Lord's, though even there it can be disappointingly slow.

It so happens that at the moment a slow pitch could be what England need, if only because it is the last thing Thomson and Lillee will want. When he bowled in Melbourne earlier this month, for Queensland, Thomson was played quite easily by the Victorians. Lillee is known to be worried about his fitness. Playing for Western Australia in Perth he has just been bowling off a short run. Lillee would have preferred to miss this match in Perth, but Inverarity, his state captain, insisted that he played. With Amiss, Denness and Cowdrey feeling better for having spent a while in the middle against South Australia, and Greig for having had a rest, England should make some runs at last, if they can only get a start.

The innings is likely to be opened by Amiss and Lloyd, probably with Cowdrey at number three. Cowdrey has a notable record in Melbourne, where three of his five Test hundreds against Australia have been made. I am still inclined to think that the first hundred he ever scored for England, against Miller and Lindwall in Melbourne 20 years ago, was the best of them all. His 102 came out of 191, after England had been 29 for three: as much as Ivson's bowling, it won the match for England. There will be great crowds in Melbourne this week, hoping to see England beaten, but intent upon giving Cowdrey a welcome. In a way Cowdrey will be under more pressure than in Perth. There the badge of courage was enough. From now on it will not be.

There being no point in playing three fast bowlers for the sake of it, England this time may include both Underwood and Titmus. Underwood's 23 wickets on the tour are five more than the next man's, who is Greig, and 17 more than Lever. If the pitch helps anyone it is more likely to be the spinners after the weekend than the fast bowlers before it. That, as I see it, may give England their one chance of winning: to bat first, make a long score, and see whether they can spin Australia out on a wearing pitch.

For the series to be saved now everything will need to go right for England. If the scars left by Thomson and Lillee in Perth and Brisbane go as deep as they sometimes do when inflicted by fast bowling there is not much hope. This match will show how deep they do go. If England can win the toss and stand firm against Thomson, and hold their catches, Australia could yet have a fight on their hands, however assured they looked by the end of the second Test match.

The difference between Australia then and in the first hour of the first Test, when Redpath and W. Edwards were both out cheaply, and Walters was shaking in his boots, not having made a run for many a day against England, and R. Edwards and Lillee were fighting to come back, and Thomson had yet to take a Test wicket, was alarming. Australia were brimming with confidence in Perth, and confidence is everything in cricket. In the last 18 months Australia, West Indies and England have each looked world beaters at one moment and ordinary mortals the next, according to their confidence at the time.

For one person especially this will be a nerve-racking week. That is Denness. As was always likely, if England did poorly, he has been made a scapegoat. He has not batted well against Thomson, but neither have most of the others. There never was a batsman who liked *fast* bowling, with the ball whistling round his ears. Some simply manage to disguise their dislike of it better than others. In this respect Denness, Amiss, Fletcher, or Boycott if you like, are more successful than Luckhurst but less successful than Cowdrey or Greig.

For the past week Denness has been unable to pick up a paper without seeing himself "rubbished", as they say in Australia, if it has not been by a critic it has been by Snow, who is commenting on the series ("Colin (Batman) Cowdrey . . . never quite unleashed his zap, pow and bam" is from one of Snow's offerings): or even by Close, whose verdict on Denness, pronounced from half-way across the world, was published yesterday. Last night Sir Donald Bradman, the best of all judges, told me that he thought Denness was "a nice player. Not as tight as some, but a good player". If any sportsman needs special wishes for a joyful Christmas it is England's captain.

AUSTRALIA (from): I. M. Chappell (captain), K. D. Walters, I. R. Redpath, G. S. Chappell, R. W. Marsh, A. A. Mallett, R. Edwards, T. J. Jenner, D. K. Lillee, M. H. N. Walker, J. R. Thomson, W. J. Edwards.

ENGLAND (from): M. H. Denness (captain), J. H. Edrich, M. C. Cowdrey, F. J. Titmus, D. L. Amiss, A. W. Greig, A. P. E. Knott, K. W. R. Fletcher, B. W. Luckhurst, D. L. Underwood, R. G. D. Willis, C. M. Old, D. Lloyd, G. G. Arnold, M. Hendrick, P. Lever.

Umpires: R. Ballhache and T. Brooks.

A bonny fighter who must not be dropped

From John Woodcock
Adelaide, Dec 23

MCC finished six runs short of victory over South Australia here this evening. Asked to score 216 in 165 minutes, they were 210 for six when the fifteenth over of the last hour finished.

At various times they had looked like doing it quite comfortably. First when Amiss and Edrich were putting on 93 for the first wicket, with Amiss producing the best and much the most powerful strokes of the match; then when Old and Taylor were adding 44 together in six overs for the fourth wicket. These two had just taken 17 off an over of Jenner's leg spin when they were both out to Cosier, whose pace is "Army medium" and whose length and direction were militarily precise.

With five overs left and Denness now in, 37 were needed. This became 20 off the last two overs, and eventually 10 off the last, with Cowdrey as Denness's partner. Tea off eight balls with a short square boundary should not have been too difficult: but Denness had trouble getting Cosier away, so that it was a draw in the end.

Woodcock had made a good declaration after MCC's three faster bowlers, Old, Lever and Hendrick, had failed to take a wicket between them. With scores of 20, 65, 75 and 48 in South Australia's two matches against MCC, Cosier has looked a lively cricketer. When MCC went in Amiss and Edrich felt some discomfort from their damaged hands.

Fletcher, disappointingly, missed the chance of some runs. It begins to look like a toss-up between him and Edrich for the last batting place on Thursday. If Fletcher is dropped it will mean the loss of a bonny fighter. I hope it does not happen. Old launched some lusty luck that he will be hoping of later in the week. Dropped twice, and virtually bowled once, as he went for quick runs, he finished unscathed for the second time

SOUTH AUSTRALIA: First Innings, 270 for 8 dec (G. Cosier 75, A. J. Woodcock 62; D. L. Underwood 6 for 58).

Second Innings

R. Fletcher c Cowdrey b Underwood	[illegible]
P. Sincock c Denness b Titmus	[illegible]
G. Cosier c Old b Cowdrey	[illegible]
I. Mann c Edrich b Cowdrey	[illegible]
C. Howe c Cowdrey b Titmus	[illegible]
J. Spencer not out	[illegible]
D. Hamich not out	[illegible]
Extras (b 4, l-b 8, n-b 3)	[illegible]
Total (6 wkts dec)	[illegible]

J. Rufus, A. Mallett and D. Prior did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1—[illegible], 2—[illegible], 3—[illegible], 4—[illegible], 5—[illegible], 6—[illegible].

BOWLING: Lever, [illegible]; Old, [illegible]; Underwood, [illegible]; Titmus, [illegible]; Cowdrey, [illegible]; Hendrick, [illegible]; Fletcher, [illegible]; Cowdrey, [illegible].

MCC: First Innings, 277 for 8 dec (M. H. Denness 68 not out, M. C. Cowdrey 70, D. L. Amiss 75).

Second Innings

D. L. Amiss c Hamich b Jenner	57
J. H. Edrich c Mann b Cosier	[illegible]
C. M. Old b Cosier	[illegible]
R. W. Taylor b Cosier	[illegible]
J. Lloyd c Jenner b Cosier	[illegible]
M. H. Denness not out	27
M. C. Cowdrey not out	[illegible]
Extras (l-b 4, n-b 1)	[illegible]
Total (6 wkts)	210

D. L. Underwood, M. J. Hendrick and P. Lever did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1—[illegible], 2—103, 3—[illegible], 4—174, 5—178, 6—[illegible].

BOWLING: Prior, [illegible]; Barnes, [illegible]; Cosier, [illegible]; Jenner, [illegible]; Mallett, [illegible].

Umpires: R. Ballhache and M. O'Connell.

Latest snow reports

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	Conditions off Piste	Conditions Piste	Weather (5 pm)	°C
NORWAY						
Finse	40	40	Good	Good	Cloud	1
Geilo	30	55	Fair	Good	Snow	1
Hol	70	80	Good	Good	Snow	-8
Lillehammer	25	65	Fair	Good	Snow	-3
Norefjell	100	113	Good	Good	Snow	-3
Rjukan	40	40	Good	Good	Snow	-8
Oslo	80	85	Fair	Good	Cloud	1
FRANCE						
Abriès	30	100	Good	Good	Sun	—
Chamonix	40	120	Good	Good	Sun	—
Châtelguyon	100	150	Good	Good	Sun	—
Isola 2000	17	50	Fair	Good	Sun	—
La Plagne	15	175	Good	Good	Sun	—
Les Arcs	15	170	Good	Good	Sun	—
Les Menuires	70	270	Good	Good	Sun	—
Megève	50	170	Good	Good	Sun	—
Peyrehorade	0	10	Good	Good	Sun	—
St Gervais	50	170	Good	Good	Sun	—
ITALY						
Arabba	0	0	—	—	Fair	—
Bardonecchia	0	70	Fair	Fair	Fair	—
Bormio	20	100	Good	Fair	Fair	—
Cervinia	5	70	Good	Fair	Fair	—
Cervinia	70	150	Good	Fair	Fair	—
Cortina	10	50	Good	Fair	Fair	—
Cortina	20	50	Good	Fair	Fair	—
Courmayeur	0	100	Good	Fair	Fair	—
Livigno	20	60	Good	Fair	Fair	—
Madesimo	30	200	Good	Fair	Fair	—
Madesimo (1,1)	30	110	Good	Fair	Fair	—
San Martino	0	10	Fair	Fair	Fair	—
Sauze d'Oulx	0	70	Good	Fair	Fair	—
Tonale	15	50	Fair	Fair	Fair	—
Sestriere	0	50	Fair	Fair	Fair	—

Conditions off Piste: All pistes in excellent condition. Andermatt. Good conditions for skiing. Anzere. Fine weather, fine skiing conditions. Crans. Satisfactory skiing above 1,500 metres. Champery. South-facing slopes icy in morning. Davos. Conditions for skiing again ideal. Klosterle. Good skiing conditions on all pistes. Kitzbühel. Excellent conditions for skiing. Livigno. Delightful conditions for skiing. Pontresina. Good skiing conditions. Seefeld. Powder snow on north-facing slopes. Wengen.

In the above reports, supplied by representatives of the Ski Club of Great Britain, L refers to lower slopes and U to upper slopes.

Ludlow results

12.30 (12.34) BURGUNDY STEEPLE-CHASE (Novice: Div II: Limit £[illegible]) [illegible]

1.0 (1.34) AMONTILLADO HURDLE (Handicap: £272: 2m 1f) [illegible]

2.30 (2.34) BURGUNDY STEEPLE-CHASE (Novice: Div III: £[illegible]: 2m 1f) [illegible]

3.0 (3.34) CLARET HURDLE (Handicap: £[illegible]: 2m 1f) [illegible]

ALSO RAN: [illegible]

Other racing, page 14

The Pool Promoters Association wish all their clients a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year

DIVIDENDS

Due to the Christmas holiday, Members' Dividends for matches played last Saturday 21st December, will be published in this paper on SATURDAY 28th DECEMBER

PPA LITTLEWOODS VERNONS COPES ZETTERS EMPIRE

Rackets

Nicholls joins an elite Etonian club

Our Rackets Correspondent

Mark Nicholls (Malvern) became the third player to win the H. K. Foster Cup, the schools rackets championship, two years running at Queen's Club yesterday. His predecessors were two Etonians, C. P. D. Milne and J. J. Faber. In a final that never expressed the full qualities of the two players, Nicholls beat Isabel Szarf (Harrow) by 13—16, 15—11, 3—15, 15—3, 15—1.

This was the third five-game match Nicholls had played in four days after a term during which he played little owing to examinations. The effort took the edge off his game. He tried to play classic rackets instead of using his natural and considerable power. The result was that he resembled a rigged schooner that had lost half its sails in a storm.

The sturdy Szarf suffered from the opposite effect. He came through to the final without losing a game. None of his previous opponents had even reached double figures against him. His game lacked the sharpness needed to deal with a player of Nicholls's class. He was nervous at the start, reached his peak in the second game, but was so ponderous in the last one that he virtually presented Nicholls with an empty court.

There were hardly any rallies in the opening game and when Nicholls reached 13—6 it seemed a straightforward affair. Here Nicholls hit down a forehand that could have been a winner and began to play defensively. Szarf recovered to 10—13: Nicholls missed a backhand and in his next hand Szarf, without meeting much resistance, won the game.

When Nicholls began to lose at 3—6 in the second game and then served a double fault at 14—9 it looked as if the story of the first game would repeat itself. Nicholls got away with the game but had a spell of hitting down service in the third game. In the fourth he began to look like the old Nicholls. Rarely though did he unleash his full power—he hit only three forehand winners in the whole match—and in the final game his opposition evaporated.

RESULTS: H. K. Foster Cup: Final round: M. W. Nicholls (Malvern) beat I. A. Szarf (Harrow) 13—16, 15—11, 3—15, 15—3, 15—1. Henry Cup: Semi-final round: A. C. S. Pigott (Harrow) beat M. D. Luther (Rugby) [illegible]. Final round: Pigott beat [illegible].

Tennis

MELBOURNE: Australian open championships: Qualifying round: Brazilian men's singles: [illegible] Segura [illegible] J. Marks [illegible]; Andrews (US) beat G. Pecci [illegible]. Final round: A. Leschly (Denmark) beat R. Lewis (NZ) [illegible]; J. C. Sadecki beat H. Eichenberger (WG) beat N. Spear (Uruguay) [illegible]; R. Robinson (US) beat K. Hirai (Japan) [illegible]; Mike Mc Schoolcraft (US) beat [illegible]. Davis Cup: Brazil beat Argentina [illegible].

Football

A West Ham ready to talk turkey

By Gerry Harrison

Boxing Day football matches have always had a special appeal. On the terraces, that first display of Christmas presents, cheroots, cigars and a selection of those appalling scarves and ties worn under orders of herself. On the field, again as a concession to the holiday mood, visitors from close at hand are welcomed with a smile which has often faded to a grimace by the time they leave.

As a sort of football sodium bicarbonate the Football League have concocted an attractive mixture this year, as it happens the return leg of the fixture list of September 14. That night we were left with Ipswich Town, Liverpool and Manchester City at the top of the first division, and Manchester United, Norwich City, Sunderland leading the second division. So what's new? West Ham United, mostly.

At that stage, after seven matches, they were bottom of the first division. Now they are fifth, a point behind the first three. Their traditional Boxing Day morning parties are always popular. Two years ago 37,397 were at Upton Park for the 2—2 draw with Tottenham. This year, with much more than entertainment and the local prestige at stake, for a change, the house-full notices could be brought out of the attic. West Ham have a doubt about Bonds, their captain, who was injured at the weekend.

Other London get-togethers might find the competition for supporters harder, particularly if Arsenal and Chelsea buffs toying with the idea of going to Highbury remember the 0—0 draw at Stamford Bridge in September. However, Queen's Park Rangers must fancy their chances of taking advantage of the struggling Leicester City, whose former captain, Keith Weller, has been fined two weeks' wages, in the region of £300, as well as placed on the transfer list after refusing to play in the second half of a league match last Friday.

Kevin Beattie, of Ipswich Town, was also missing from that game after going AWOL from the England under-23 squad. The two cases are not parallel. Beattie, not so long ago a van boy in Carlisle, is a likable young giant who is after all, not made of the same granite on the inside as he is on the outside. He is almost certain to be back in the side when the league leaders take on the bottom club, Luton Town at Portman Road. Beattie's presence is all the more imperative because Hunter, the centre half, has a head injury.

In terms of numbers the Anfield meeting of Liverpool and Manchester City could prove the afternoon's most popular event. The football might have other qualities. Liverpool are red devils breathing more smoke than fire at the moment; Manchester City are making a deliberate effort to play more negative football to allow their opponents less fun and freedom away from home. Some would say its like Cyrano de Bergerac deciding to keep his mouth shut and relying on his nose to make his conquests.

If Alan Oakes plays for City—Clarke deputized for him on Saturday—it will be his five-hundred and ninth team game for the club, breaking the record held by the goalkeeper, Bert Trautmann. Also in the City squad is the centre half Tommy Booth, who has made a remarkably swift recovery after having two damaged vertebrae removed from his spine.

Another player who has come through reserve team and practice games successfully is Leeds United's Edwin Gray. A thigh injury seemed to have ruined his career. Now there is talk of including him in the squad for the game against Burnley, two sides who never showed much Christmas spirit to each other.

Elsewhere, the day and the derby will pull them in, with four of the Midlands' first division clubs doing battle among themselves. At Brunton Park, with a good pair of glasses, main stand patrons might even catch a glimpse of the pink on the surrounding hills as well as the red of the Carlisle-Newcastle United clash.

John Bond, the Norwich City manager, yesterday echoed Keith Weller controversial cry, arguing that other managers should place an embargo on buying the Leicester City player. Mr Bond said he intended to write to other managers suggesting that they should unite in not making an approach for Weller.

"I think we managers have got to stick together so that certain players are not able to call the tune," he said. "Players must not be allowed to destroy us."

Schools team to meet FA Youth XI

The Amateur Football Association (home counties) schools team to play an FA Youth XI at Barclays Bank Ground, Ealing, on January 2 is as follows:

L. Smelt (Arnos); K. Hart (Southern GS, Portsmouth), P. Pointing (St Aloysius), A. Patel (Willesden HS), C. Dolury (St Edward's), M. Cornwall (Brighton, Hove and Sussex), T. Mitchell (Eton GS), K. Thwaites (East Brooks), R. Coster (Tom Hood Senior HS), R. Connell (Woolwich Polytechnic School), H. Smith (Salvatorian), Subs: S. Tillowe (Leyton HS), P. Henricks (Ilford).

Yesterday's results

Third division

Sheffield (0) 1 Aldershot (1) 1
Elliott Bradle
(5,336)

SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Cup (third round): Maidstone 1, Corby 2.

FA YOUTH CUP: Third round: Sheffield U, Oxford United 0; Colney 0, New Mill County 0; West Bromwich Albion 3, Kettering 1; Aston Villa 3, Bognor Regis 0.

Squash rackets

A repeat 3—1 success for Pakistan

By Rex Bellamy
Squash Rackets Correspondent

Pakistan have achieved a winning 2—0 lead over Britain in their series of amateur squash rackets matches. The 3—1 margin at Stockton on December 7 was repeated last evening at Brandon Hall, near Coventry, though on this occasion Britain switched their third and fourth strings and Pakistan blooded a new player.

The remaining amateur match will be played at Wembley on January 7. A more valid test of strength, assembling leading professionals and amateurs of both countries in a five-a-side contest, will bring the series to a climax at Wembley on January 28. Both nations will then be at full strength except for the absence of a Pakistani professional, Hidayat Jahan, who is out of favour because he recently played in South Africa.

The formidable Pakistani amateur team included Mohibullah and Zaman, who have contested the last two finals of the British amateur championship. But at Brandon Hall, as in the amateur championship last week, Ayton demonstrated that for a limited period he has the skill and the sense to keep the maturing Mohibullah in something of a tactical quandary. The nature of the first game was indicated by Ayton's raised eyebrows as, having despatched the ball crisply to diagonally opposite corners of the court, he observed the energetic Mohibullah waiting inscrutably for the second shot to arrive.

There is not much to be done when your opponent travels that fast. But Ayton won the second game from 2—7 down thanks to some helpful errors by his opponent, whose concentration seemed to be wandering. Encouraged, Ayton played beautifully to win the third game from 2—5 down. But he was to score only two more points. Suddenly Mohibullah was all disciplined violence, imposing a pressure Ayton could no longer withstand. But the Pakistani scored two successive points with nicked cross-court kills, one on each flank. It was exciting stuff to watch, though it must have been frustrating for Ayton after his earlier splendour.

Zaman, who looks like the Kenny Ball of Quelia was 2—7 down to Michael Corby before playing the right tune. Corby was so boldly accurate in this phase that Zaman, who habitually seems puzzled, began to seem worried too. When Zaman re-discovered his inimitable blend of deception and severity, alternately caressing the ball as if afraid of hurting it, and then assaulting it as if in hatred.

Corby often had little idea what was going to happen next, except that he was unlikely to enjoy it. But he played well enough to lead 7—4 in the third game.

Richardson, lobbing to a good length and playing drop shots as if he had invented them, led Saleem 9—6 and 2—0. Then the unorthodox and ungainly Saleem warmed up, came to terms with the pattern of play, and showed us his own command of touch: and his greater facility for masking his intentions and playing a tight game. Even so, Richardson made a close match of it.

RESULTS: Mohibullah Khan beat P. N. Ayton, 9—5, 7—9, 7—2, 5—9, 9—1, 9—0; Dermer Zaman beat M. W. Corby 9—7, 9—3, 9—7; Mohamed Saleem beat J. L. Richardson, 9—6, 9—2, 6—9, 9—1; Qamar-ud-Zaman lost to P. G. Yarow 2—9, 4—9, 9—0, 3—9.

Hockey

Scotland's two new caps in party of 12

By Sydney Friskin

Scotland have announced a party of 12 for the indoor hockey match against England at Michael Sobell Sports Centre, London, on January 10. All but three of the party, Keiller, Thom and Kenneth Hay, assisted Scotland in the last European championship in West Berlin; Keiller and Thom are new caps.

SCOTLAND PARTY: K. Dick (Inverleith, captain), S. Smith (Edinburgh Civil Service), C. Sutherland (Edinburgh GS), A. Stobbs (Edinburgh GS), W. McLean (Edinburgh GS), D. Coventry (Edinburgh GS), G. Grassick (Edinburgh GS), M. Keiller (Perth), W. Hunt (Perth), K. Hay (Perth), I. Kilgour (Harris Academy FP), R. Stewart (Old Grangemouthians).

Skill takes second place to determination

By Norman Creek

Public Schools 3 FA Youth XI 2

When he presented the cups at the schools six a side tournament last week, the secretary of the Football Association warned the boys that a strong FA youth side had been selected to play against them yesterday at Roehampton. How right he was.

The youth side, all apprentices of 16 or 17 years of age, gave a splendid display of fast, accurate football. Yet they undeservedly lost 3—2 to a schools side which never gave up, which equalized twice, and then scored the winning goal after the best combined move of the match three minutes before the end. Perseverence and determination for once overcame skill.

The youth side began at a cracking pace and took the lead in 15 minutes when Denny scored after good play by Hyams, who surely must make his mark at White Hart Lane within the next few years. Pendlebury made an opening which enabled Holt to equalize, but Martin headed a splendid goal from Rees's delightfully chipped free kick to give the youth side a deserved half-time lead.

Playing against the wind after the interval, the schools found the speed of the game beginning to tell, but Tinkenor, a substitute, equalized after a goalkeeping mistake. The pattern of the game continued, with the youth team using quick first-time passes on the ground and the higher clearances of the schools swirling in the wind and making it difficult for the recipients to bring the ball down under control.

Just when it seemed that the game would end in a draw, Tinkenor, Effion-Jones and Adomakoh combined to produce the matchwinning goal by Waddicor.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS XI: T. Richards (Westminster), G. Jackson (Queen Elizabeth's, Blackburn), G. Sanderson (King Edward's, Witley), N. Butterworth (Manchester GS), J. Corbett (Manchester GS), J. Waddicor (Queen Elizabeth's, Blackburn), J. Cassidy (Bolton), J. Effion-Jones (Repton), A. Adomakoh (Charterhouse), D. Hall (Eton). Sub: P. Tinkenor, Manchester GS). Pendlebury (Bury GS).

FA YOUTH XI: D. Dawson (West Ham United), Sub P. Bernhard (Millwall); H. Barr (Orient), B. Kinsella (Fulham), S. Reeves (Bournemouth), A. Marsh (West Ham United), M. Wright (Millwall), D. Keefe (Southend United), N. Smith (Crystal Palace), P. Denny (Southend United), P. Brush (West Ham United), Sub G. Hibbs, Orient). G. Hyams (Tottenham Hotspur).

Referee: E. D. Miles (London Society).

Boxing Day fixtures

Kick-off 3.0 unless stated.

First division

Arsenal v Chelsea
Carlisle v Newcastle
Coventry v Stoke
Derby v Birmingham
Ipswich v Luton
Leeds v Burnley
Liverpool v Manchester C
Middlesbrough v Sheffield U
Q P Rangers v Leicester
West Ham v Tottenham (11.0)
Wolverhampton v Everton

Fourth division

Cambridge U v Brentford
Chester v Bradford C
Crewe v Mansfield
Exeter v Torquay
Newport v Reading (11.30)
Northampton v Lincoln
Rochdale v Doncaster
Rotherham v Hartlepool
Scunthorpe v Darlington (3.15)
Southport v Workington
Stockport v Barnsley
Swansea v Shrewsbury

Second division

Aston Villa v Bristol Rovers
Blackpool v Oldham
Bristol C v Cardiff
Fulham v Orient (11.15)
Hull v Notts Forest
Manchester U v West Bromwich
Notts County v Norwich
Oxford U v Millwall
Portsmouth v South'pton (11.0)
Sheffield Wed v Bolton
Sunderland v York

SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Premier division: Alvechurch v Nuneaton (11.0); Barnet v Wealdstone (11.0); Bath v Guildford Dorking; Chelmsford v Romford; Grantham v Burton (2.15); Kettering v Cambridge City; Maidstone v Yeovil; Wimbledon v Dover; Telford v Footscray; Margate v Weymouth; Stourbridge v Dartford. First division: North: AP Leamington v Bedworth; Barry v Merthyr Tydfil (11.0); Bedford v Stevenage; Bromsgrove v Redditch (11.0); Cheltenham v Gloucester; Corby v Willenhall (11.0); Dunstable v Witney (11.0); King's Lynn v Tamworth (11.0); Worcester v Kidderminster (11.0). South: Basingstoke v Andover; Bideford v Minehead; Bognor Regis v Waterlooville; Canterbury v Salisbury; Folkestone v Sittingbourne; Ashford (11.0); Gravesend v Bexley United (11.15); Hastings v Crawley; Poole v Dorchester; Trowbridge v Salisbury (11.30).

Rackets

Public Schools singles championships (at Queen's Club, West Kensington).

Third division

Aldershot v Gillingham
Blackburn v Preston
Bournemouth v Hereford
Bury v Halifax (3.15)
Chesterfield v Huddersfield (3.15)
Crystal Palace v Southend
Peterborough v Grimsby
Plymouth v Swindon
Port Vale v Tranmere (3.15)
Walsall v Wrexham
Watford v Brighton

NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Bangor City v South Liverpool; Barrow v Lancaster; Buxton v Matlock; Chorley v Great Harwood; Gainsborough v Boston United (11.0); Macclesfield v Altrincham; Morecambe v Netherfield; Mossley v Skelmersdale; Runcorn v Northwich Victoria; Scarborough v Gateshead; Wigan Athletic v Stafford Rangers; Worksop v Goole.

Rugby League

FIRST DIVISION: Keighley v Bradford Northern; Leeds v Wakefield Trinity (11.0); Rochdale Hornets v Warrington; St Helens v Wigan; Salford v Widnes.

SECOND DIVISION: Huddersfield v Oldham; Hull Kingston Rovers v Hull (11.30); Whitehaven v Workington Town.

Hockey

COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP: North: Lancashire v Cheshire (at Aigburth, Liverpool).

OTHER MATCHES: Cheam v Presidents XI; Folkestone Optimists v R. Alps XI.

Rugby Union

Club matches

Aberavon v Neath (3.0)
Abertillery v Ebbw Vale (3.0)
Bath v Clifton (3.15)
Bedford v Q Paulins (2.30)
Bellshill Park v Waterloo
Bridgend v Maesteg (3.0)
Bridgwater & Alb v Taunton (3.0)
Bristol v Newbridge (3.15)
Cardiff v Pontypridd
Cheltenham v Stroud (2.30)
Coventry v Moseley (3.0)
Cross Keys v Penarth (3.15)
Edinburgh Acads v London Scottish
Gloucester v Lydney (3.0)
Harrogate v Bradford (2.30)
Llanelli v London Welsh (3.15)
Manchester v Wilmslow
Newport v Walsenhams
Northampton v Harlequins
Northern v Gosforth
Old Millhillians v London Irish
Pontypool v Newport
Rosslyn Park v Camborne
Rugby v Nuneaton (2.30)
Saracens v Blackheath (2.30)
Swansea v Glamorgan Wanderers (3.0)
Teignmouth v Torquay Athletic
Weston-s-Mare v Somerset Police (2.30)

Squash Rackets

Second international match: Great Britain v Pakistan (at Brandon Hall SC, Coventry).

TV highlights

BBC 1

Football: Preview (12.5).
Rugby League: Leeds v Wakefield Trinity (12.15).
Motor racing: Brands Hatch meeting (12.55).
Racing: Kempton Park races at 1.15, 1.45, 2.20: Wincanton races at 1.30, 2.0.

Hockey

Scotland's two new caps in party of 12

By Sydney Friskin

Scotland have announced a party of 12 for the indoor hockey match against England at Michael Sobell Sports Centre, London, on January 10. All but three of the party, Keiller, Thom and Kenneth Hay, assisted Scotland in the last European championship in West Berlin; Keiller and Thom are new caps.

SCOTLAND PARTY: K. Dick (Inverleith, captain), S. Smith (Edinburgh Civil Service), C. Sutherland (Edinburgh GS), A. Stobbs (Edinburgh GS), W. McLean (Edinburgh GS), D. Coventry (Edinburgh GS), G. Grassick (Edinburgh GS), M. Keiller (Perth), W. Hunt (Perth), K. Hay (Perth), I. Kilgour (Harris Academy FP), R. Stewart (Old Grangemouthians).

Oxford University in third place

Cairo, Dec 23.—Harvard University today won the first leg of the annual river Nile rowing event at Luxor, covering the 2,000 metres in 5min 43.0sec. The Egyptian Police crew was second in 5min 43.6sec and third was Oxford University in 5min 51.0sec. Fourth was Yale University, fifth Cambridge University and sixth the Egyptian Universities' team.

Ice hockey

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Atlanta Flames 4, New York Rangers 0; New York Islanders 5, Kansas City Scouts 2; Buffalo Sabres 0, Washington Capitals 0; Boston Bruins 3, Detroit Red Wings 1; Philadelphia Flyers 6, Pittsburgh Penguins 0; Chicago Black Hawks 2, Toronto Maple Leafs 0; Vancouver Canucks 6,

SPORT

Racing

Forecasting Soothsayer to follow home Pendil

By Michael Phillips
Racing Correspondent

Pendil will become the first horse to win the King George VI Steeplechase at Kempton Park three times if he is successful there again on Boxing Day. When he won it last year he equalled Halloween's and Mandarin's feat, having won it the year before as well.

Pendil is certain to start at odds-on, and it will be a great shock if he fails, in spite of the fact that the Gold Cup winner, Captain Christy, will be among his rivals. Kempton is Pendil's happy hunting ground. Quite apart from winning this particular race twice, he has also won five other races there. Kempton it seems is a course where his brilliant, quick jumping has always stood him in good stead, a place where Richard Pitman has always been able to make the fullest possible use of his undeniable speed.

With wins at Newbury, Sandown Park and Haydock Park under his belt already this season, Pendil has looked as good as ever, and I expect to see him win again. But who will finish second? That is not nearly such an easy question to answer. Some, perhaps most, will plump for Captain Christy, who did after all beat The Dikler by five lengths to win the Gold Cup at Cheltenham in March, as Pendil lay prostrate on the ground, having been brought down by High Ken three fences from home.

However, Captain Christy did not do at all well on his only previous visit to this country this season, and, in the circumstances, I am inclined to think that anyone contemplating a sporting bet could do much worse than forecast Pendil to win from his stable companion, Soothsayer.

The conditions of the race certainly suit Soothsayer who is due to receive 11 lb from Pendil, Captain Christy and Royal Relief and weight, too, from High Ken whom he beat at Cheltenham in November, when he was actually giving High Ken 19 lb. Obviously Captain Christy will be a tough opponent for Pendil if he is at his best. After all, he did win six steeplechases including the Gold Cup last season. But he also fell or unseated his rider on three other occasions, and his jumping left a lot to be desired at Cheltenham earlier this month, when he finished last but one in the Massey-Ferguson Gold Cup.

Soothsayer had run an excellent race at Cheltenham a month earlier, carrying 12 st into second place in the Mackeson Gold Cup. He had High Ken just behind him at the end and he meets that horse now on 23 lb better terms. Royal Relief is a good horse on his day, as he proved when he won the National Hunt two-mile Champion Steeplechase again at Cheltenham in March. But he has not run well in three races this season and it is difficult to fancy his chance.

Comedy of Errors has been declared to run in the William Hill Christmas Hurdle, but only as a safeguard against anything preventing him from travelling to Ireland for Friday's Irish Sweeps Hurdle. Incidentally, those contemplating having a bet on Boxing Day should be on their guard. It is at this time of the year that trainers are allowed to declare their horses for one or more races at different meetings.

In the absence of Comedy of Errors the William Hill Christmas Hurdle is likely to be won by Tree Tangle who, after Lanzarote and Comedy of Errors, is arguably the best hurdler in this country. Tree Tangle has now won six of his last seven races, three last season and three this, and there are grounds for thinking that he ought to have won the seventh as well, had not Andrew Turnell taken things too easily at Newbury when he was caught unawares by J. King on Flash Imp.

Judged by the way that he rode Tree Tangle in his next race at Ascot, Turnell had learned from that mistake, and Tree Tangle promptly won the SGB Hire Shop Hurdle there easily. He certainly exposed Supreme Halo's limitations, and he seems poised to beat that horse again.

The Country Range Novice Hurdle is a new race in the Kempton programme. It has been sponsored by Country Range Frozen Foods, whose chairman, George Jackson, has promised that any prize money won by his wife's runner, Red Power, will be donated to the injured jockeys fund. Red Power has won nine races on the flat already, but he fell in his only race under National Hunt rules at Sandown Park in November. However, starting as he did at only 13-8 he was obviously expected to do better than that and his is clearly a name to bear in mind.

So too is that of Anji, another interesting recruit from the world of flat racing. Anji won the Bessborough Stakes at Royal Ascot and the Ebor Handicap at York this summer, but he lacks the experience of Bell Bryn and Present Arms who were both successful on the same afternoon at Sandown Park in the autumn. Bell Bryn was raised in New Zealand and that was his first and only race in this country—an encouraging start.

It was noticeable that Present Arms won his race in a much faster time that day and he is preferred now. It could be that Present Arms will be the first of two winners for the Queen Mother, whose colours will also be carried by Tammuz in the Boxing Day Handicap Hurdle, the last race on the card. I thought that there was a lot to like about the way that his half-brother to the 1,000 Guineas winner, Highclere, ran in his first and only race this season. He finished fifth at Sandown but only four lengths behind Sydney Carton. Birds of Prey and Gay Dancer are probably the two that supporters of Tammuz should fear the most.

[illegible]

Clear Cut can never be left out of the reckoning

By Jim Snow

The 10-year-old Clear Cut, always easy to pick out in a race with his large white blaze, is not moving into strange waters when he carries 12st 4lb in Wetherby's three mile Rowland Meyrick Steeplechase on Thursday. With £4,000 added to the stakes this is the most valuable handicap of the 48 races to be decided at eight meetings.

Clear Cut is a very good horse but a very bad traveller, and Charlie Hall has found that he runs a long way below his true form if he stays overnight in a strange box. Of his 19 victories 10 have been at Wetherby, a dozen miles away from his stable, and they have been over two miles, two miles and a half and three miles. At Wetherby he is a law unto himself and can never be left out of the reckoning.

The opposition to Clear Cut numbers 10, and it is formidable. Glandford Brigg, just about the best novice steeplechaser in the country last season with six victories in a row followed by a second to the Irish horse, Ten Up, in the £8,000 Sun Alliance Steeplechase at Cheltenham, has plenty to do with 12st 4lb, but he has earned this place at the top of the handicap through his many good performances in 1973-74.

Ken Oliver, who has a strong fleet of runners at Wetherby and Sedgefield, will be briefing three jockeys for his runners in the parade ring. The Benign Bishop, Meridian II, and Lingus, and Arthur Stephenson will be doing likewise with Interview II, Scout, the favourite for the Grand National and the 11-year-old Supermaster, whose record over the course is almost as good as that of Clear Cut. He has won nine races there.

In what is a really challenging and difficult handicap Tony Dickinson's Anthony Watt, the better for his race last week when he was third, Tartan Tutor, and Glen Owen have by no means remote claims, but it may be that Clear Cut, Glandford Brigg, Anthony Watt and Interview I will be in close touch at the fina fence. I take Clear Cut to win from Anthony Watt and Glandfor Brigg.

The champion jockey, Ro Barry, with the plaster remove from a broken wrist, might hav a Boxing Day to celebrate in th best traditions of Irish style whe he gets home to his house i Cumberland. Rustic Prince, i division one of the Bradfor Novices Hurdle, offers him an e cellent chance of starting th programme with a victory, and i the next race, the York Novice Steeplechase, he should be fir home again on Easby Abbe Peter Easterby's seven-year-o has been a high class hurdler ov the past three seasons and he h taken well to fences. Greystok Rambler, trained by Gordo Richards as is Rustic Prince, saw through well in a driving finis to win at Ayr in his one previo appearance this season. Richar and Ron Barry think a lot of th horse and I do not oppose him i the Bickerton Handicap Hurdle.

Kempton Park programme

[Television (BBC 1): 1.15, 1.45 and 2.30 races]

12.45 MISTLETOE STEEPLECHASE (£677: 2m)

4200f-p Bucks Head (S. Sainsbury, Mrs Whitfield, 7-11-0) —
2112-22 Cape Clarendon (D) (J. Gifford, T. Cundell, 6-11-0) —
212-221 Centaur (D) (H. Smith, J. Neill, 10-11-0) —
430 Corrieghoil (C) (G. Gaventa, R. Smith, 11-11-0) —
00p03-0 Somers of Walton (J. Edwards, H. O'Neill, 8-11-0) —
1200-00 Uncle Sol (J. Edgar, J. Edgar, 8-11-0) —
0-00002 King's Savings (A. Mathews, Mrs Kings, 8-11-0) —
11-8 Centaur, 11-4 Cape Clarendon, 9-2 Corrieghoil, 8-1 Somers of Walton, 10-1 King's Savings, 20-1 others.

1.15 HOLLY STEEPLECHASE (Handicap: £612: 3m)

0311-f3 Dance Again (Mrs Brooks, D. Nicholson, 7-11-2) —
10f-p00 Summer Storm (T. Jones, S. Mellor, 7-11-0) —
3234-00 Star Pearl (A. Matthews, Mrs Hayes, 10-7) —
003123 Moonen River (Mrs Schwan, D. Nicholson, 9-11-1) —
323023 Polish Hard (M. Tabor, J. S. Evans, 8-10-0) —
2-1 Dance Again, 9-2 Moonen River, 7-2 Star Pearl, 5-1 Polish Hard, 12-1 Summer Storm.

1.45 WILLIAM HILL CHRISTMAS HURDLE (£1,950: 2m)

112-111 Comedy of Errors (D) (F. Shaddley, F. Tom[illegible]) —
11-1121 Tree Tangle (D) (Mrs Wilshire, B. Turn[illegible]) —
00001p Persian Majesty (CD) (J. Gibson, S. Mellor, 5-11-[illegible]) —
213-210 Supreme Halo (CD) (Miss Dampier, B. Smith, 4-11-[illegible]) P. Bennett
The Sharpshan (CD) (S. Powell, J. Sutcliffe Jun, [illegible]) —
Maximilian (B. Preslin, C. Brewer, 5-11-[illegible]) —
5-4 Tree Tangle, 3-1 Supreme Halo, 4-1 The Sharpshan, 6-1 Persian Majesty, 12-1 Maximilian, Comedy of Errors expected to run in Irish Sweeps Hurdle at Leopardstown on Friday so is omitted from the betting forecast.

2.20 KING GEORGE VI STEEPLECHASE (£6,963: 3m)

1111-00 Captain Christy (Mrs Carroll, P. Taaffe, 7-12-0) B. Cronin
110-111 Pendil (CD) (Mrs Saulton, J. Winter, 7-12-0) —
112-010 Royal Relief (D) (J. Lupton, [illegible]) —
10-2311 High Ken (D) (R. Richards, [illegible]) —
21-221 Soothsayer (Mrs Scott, J. Winter, 7-12-0) —
p02-p02 Real Free (D) (G. Sweetzer, R. Jones, 8-11-7) D. Mould
2 231-32p Kilvalgan (C) (J. Joel, D. Turnell, 7-11-7) A. Turnell
Joy Bench (J. Captain Christy, 9-1 Soothsayer, 16-1 High Ken, 25-1 Real Free, 33-1 Royal Relief.

2.50 COUNTRY RANGE HURDLE (3-y-o: £932: 2m)

2-31301 Barmitzvah Boy (D) (C. Gaventa, R. Smith, 11-10) —
11 Young Arthur (D) (Mrs Kent, D. Kent, 11-10) P. Blacker 7
Bell Bryn (C) (K. Whitbread, Miss Vollar, 11-7) —
030-013 Floating Pound (D) (Mrs Duncan, J. Winter, 11-7) —
00-1022 Harry Zephyr (D) (Mrs Lacey, I. Dudgeon, 11-7) K. Stone 7
31 Party Time (D) (D. Lugsdin, J. Lugsdin, 11-7) —
11 President Arms (D) (Queen Mother's Ws, Mr Jones, 11-7) —
Anji (G. Coleman, J. Sutcliffe Jun, 11-0) R. House
Bushman (G. Nicholson), D. Nicholson, 11-0) —
Courtly Lad (A. Mathews, J. Mathews, 11-0) P. Kelleway
1200-p Golden Mark (D. Edgar, J. Edgar, 11-0) J. Nouss 7
00 Kellagem (Mrs Rivers, J. Vaznes, 11-0) —
Maximilian (B. Preslin, C. Brewer, 11-0) —
3u0 Precipice Star (G. Guiratti, H. Bellhurst, 11-0) —
Red Reef (Mrs Jackson, Mrs Jackson, 11-0) D. Mould
2043-40 Selway (W. Standing, J. Moore, 11-0) —
4 Tenecoon (F. Smith, R. Annytage, 11-0) J. Francome
5-1 Barmitzvah Boy, 4-1 Young Arthur, 5-1 Party Time, 13-2 Bell Bryn, 8-1 Floating Pound, 10-1 President Arms, 12-1 Harry Zephyr, 16-1 Anji, 20-1 others.

3.20 BOXING DAY HURDLE (Handicap: £680: 2m)

1 fo Indianapolis (P. Cole, D. Gibson, S. Mathews, 7-11-8) —
040141 Bladon (CD) (R. Miller, F. Winter, 4-11-3) P. Kelleway
1140-00 Kingdom (D) (W. Gibson, W. Wightman, 9-11-3) C. Harry 7
0-0 Old Swell (CD) (C. Jones, W. Wightman, 5-11-1) —
401000 Hot Swell (D) (A. Parsons, S. Mathews, 7-10-13) L. Gibbon 7
p1-002p Spy Mat (CD) (C. Cohen, D. Dale, 7-10-10) R. Hughes
10 Quarrymaster (D) (Mrs Cropper, R. Hannon, 6-10-8) —
3100-00 Contenda (D) (Mrs Rawdon, J. Sutcliffe Jun, 9-10-8) R. House
33u1-0 Tammuz (D) (Queen Mother), F. Walwyn, 6-10-7) W. Smith
202-30f Capuchin (D) (E. Courage, Courage, 5-10-7) J. Barlow 7
011232 Gay Dancer (P. Boulandris, Miss Sinclair, 4-10-6) R. Rowell
122-400 Whenever (E. Weech, E. Beeson, 6-10-6) J. Jenkins
0110-0f Bird of Prey (D) (H. Joel, H. Turnell, 4-10-3) J. Turnell
211023 Yasou (D) (J. Bosley, P. Cundell, 4-10-0) J. Francome
001023 Sheerine (S. Clarke, G. Harwood, 5-10-0) G. Lawson
11-4 Bladon, 7-1 Gay Dancer, 9-2 Indianapolis, 11-2 Yasou, 8-1 Bird of Prey, 10-1 Kingdom, 14-1 Contenda, Capuchin, 20-1 others.
*Doubtful runner.

Kempton Park selections

By Our Racing Correspondent
12.45 Corrieghoil. 1.15 Star Pearl. 1.45 Tree Tangle. 2.20 Pendil. 2.50 Present Arms. 3.20 TAMMUZ is specially recommended.

Wincanton programme

[Television (BBC 1): 1.30 and 2.00 races]

12.30 SPRING CORN STEEPLECHASE (Handicap: £374: 2m)

34-0013 Wild Fox (CD), R. Turnell, 7-12-4) S. Knight 5
013-0 Philip the Bold (CD), Mrs Oughton, 8-10-0) G. Thorner
0-00423 Gardez Le Reste, R. Armytage, 7-10-0) Mr Parkyn 5
00010-0 Taman, D. Barons, 7-10-0) V. Soane
02p-102 Nat Orlen, Mrs Kennard, 5-10-0) —
00p0-p0 Lone Native, C. Gadd, 9-10-0) G. Gadd 7
9-4 Wild Fox, 11-4 Philip the Bold, 9-2 Gardez Le Reste, 5-1 Taman, 6-1 Nat Orlen, 12-1 Lone Native.

1.0 LEVY BOARD STEEPLECHASE (Handicap: £508: 3m 1f)

1241-3p Barona (CD), R. Armytage, 8-11-5) G. Thorner
41-42u1 Colondine, J. Dudgeon, 7-11-0) P. O'Donovan
w-1213 Highland Abbe (D), L. Kennard, 9-10-13) A. Andrews
111p-13 Clarification (CD), R. Armytage, 7-10-13) —
1-101p0 Maniphe (CD), Miss Morris, 10-10-11) L. Lungo
10f-p21 Maniwaki (CD), S. Fairmont, 7-10-9) —
00-0230 Carroll Street, G. Balding, 7-10-6) J. Fox 3
8p-4420 Jacqueline's Pearl, D. Barons, 8-10-0) V. Soane
fo Twelve Pointer (C), N. Miles, 9-10-0) —
4-pp2p0 Blank Escart, P. Muggeridge, 9-10-0) —
8-2 Highland Abbe, 4-1 Clarification, 5-1 Maniwaki, 6-1 Barona, Maniphe, 7-1 Colondine, 12-1 Carroll Street, 16-1 others.

1.30 JOE CORAL GOLDEN HURDLE (Handicap: Qualifier: £982: 2½m)

10230d Mac's Birthday, F. Gorman, 7-12-7) N. Wakley
404411 Rosslare, R. Turnell, 8-11-11) S. Knight 5
3-00001 Inaudible, R. Nicholson, 8-11-9) —
New Chairman, E. Beeson, 6-11-9) J. Jenkins
10020-0 Cossall, D. Scott, 7-11-4) Mr Scott
020-p00 Royal Reward (CD), R. Nicholson, 7-11-1) R. Dickin 5
233133 Moss Royal, P. Bomford, 8-11-0) —
31-000 When Lad, M. Lail, 6-11-0) —
13-034f Don't Hesitate, P. Cundell, 4-10-11) —
Tall Blazer, T. Forster, 7-10-11) —
0300-00 Pythium, G. Balding, 5-10-11) R. Bailey
40-0002 The Bishop, W. Price, 5-10-7) Joy Scallan 3
Chapellor, T. Forster, 7-10-7) G. Thorner
1-000 Mama Roux, R. Armytage, 5-10-5) —
0u00-1p Franwin, A. Davison, 8-10-5) R. Atkins
41-3300 Prince George, L. Kennard, 7-10-5) A. Andrews
403-220 Willow Hound, Mrs Finch, 7-10-2) R. J. Owen 7
Bretton Woods, J. Cottrell, 6-10-2) L. Lungo
0-pp100 Purbeck Pylon (CD), N. Wakley, 7-10-2) N. Wakley
40332-0 Prince Eleigh, Miss Morris, 5-10-0) P. Keane 7
1000-00 Je Dit, W. Williams, 7-10-0) M. Wagner
3-02014 Joint Venture, A. Old, 5-10-0) G. Candy
4-24040 Grey Leader, J. Thorne, 4-10-0) R. Mangan 7
8-2 Inaudible, 5-1 Mac's Birthday, 6-1 The Bishop, 8-1 Rosslare, Franwin, 10-1 Willow Hound, 14-1 Don't Hesitate, Bretton Woods, Royal Reward, 16-1 Pythium, Some Hazard, Cossall, 20-1 others.

2.0 JOE CORAL HURDLE (Handicap: £983: 2m)

1403-04 Old Man Dimplex (CD), W. Marshall, 7-11-10) M. Wagner
00001p Persian Majesty (D), S. Matthews, 7-11-8) A. Andrews
44-0400 Cantile (D), L. Kennard, 8-11-4) —
040141 Bladon (D), F. Winter, 4-11-3) R. Kington 7
401000 Hot Swell (D), S. Matthews, 7-10-13) L. Gibbon 7
000-2201 Yellow Lark (CD), Mrs Clapham, 6-10-11) G. Thorner
12410-0 Neon Star (D), R. Turnell, 5-10-10) S. Knight 5
03300-p Kelanne (D), W. Williams, 10-10-10) —
000400p Antonius (D), G. Balding, 4-10-0) R. Bailey
11 Mr Mammister (D), R. Hannon, 6-10-8) —
4-14110 Mad Mahdi (CD), D. Barons, 4-10-8) V. Soane
123-400 Arboretum, E. Beeson, 8-10-0) J. Jenkins
00-0000 Fighting Kate (D), R. Nicholson, 4-10-5) R. Dickin 5
2344-04 Merrie Lord (D), Miss Morris, 5-10-0) P. Keane 7
211023 Yasou (D), P. Cundell, 4-10-0) —
42010f Overall (CD), L. Kennard, 5-10-0) John Williams
p1-20 Pirate Bell, P. Cole, 5-10-0) W. Shoemark
304024 Giddy Girl (D), D. Thorne, 5-10-0) P. Blacker
7-2 Old Man Dimplex, 5-1 Bladon, 6-1 Yellow Lark, 7-1 Neon Star, 10-1 Cantile, Mad Mahdi, 12-1 Yasou, 14-1 Arboretum, Fighting Kate, 16-1 Persian Majesty, 20-1 others.

2.30 TANTIVY STEEPLECHASE (Handicap: £374: 2m 5f)

p100-4f Vulgan Town (CD), G. Balding, 8-11-12) J. Fox 3
4130-21 Gay Kildare, T. Forster, 11-11-9) G. Thorner
10-1130 Colonel Mustard (C), T. Forster, 6-11-4) —
010-p04 Eyecatcher (CD), J. Bosley, 8-11-1) —
u-0f0p3 Coolera Prince, N. Wakley, 6-10-13) N. Wakley
p04023 Land Lark (CD), T. Pocock, 9-10-10) —
1p3-032 The Edwardian (C), E. Champneys, 10-10-7) V. Soane
033p04 Carib Royal, Mrs Gaze, 9-10-5) R. Hyett
002 See-O-Dut, H. Dufosee, 6-10-5) —
00-310p Spring Day, G. Small, 8-10-0) —
12322-0 Tinkers Green (CD), R. Armytage, 8-10-0) Mr Parkyn 5
60- Vulkie, D. Scott, 11-10-0) —
6-4 Gay Kildare, 5-2 Vulgan Town, 5-1 Eyecatcher, Land Lark, 8-1 Carib Royal, 12-1 others.

3.0 STIRRUP-CUP HURDLE (Novice: 6-y-o: £204: 2m)

0-21340 Four New Pence, C. Bewicke, 11-12) P. Collins 7
f000p0- Aston Halo, A. Pitt, 11-5) —
Bhaula Khan, W. Williams, 11-5) —
0-3 Father Brown, E. Beeson, 11-5) J. Jenkins
p1f Flint Flint, L. Cottrell, 11-5) L. Lungo
0 Frested, C. Bewicke, 11-5) V. Soane
0f2p0f Lassington Runner, N. Wakley, 11-5) N. Wakley
Le Harve, G. Balding, 11-5) J. Fox 5
0 Lilahi River, T. Pocock, 11-5) —
f3410-4 Mama Roux, S. Mellor, 11-5) S. Jobar
Memory Lane, Mrs Kennard, 11-5) Mr Hobbs 7
00pp- Natif Solitaire, G. Gadd, 11-5) G. Gadd 7
214040 Noirmont Point, J. Old, 11-5) G. Candy
0404-f0 Precipiate, T. Forster, 11-5) —
f0 Richie's Fire, P. Taylor, 11-5) A. Carroll 7
0- Spats, I. Thorne, 11-5) P. Blacker
Spring Gossip, R. Hannon, 11-5) —
3-000 Spring Vision, D. Gandolfo, 11-5) W. Shoemark
3-1 Mama Roux, 3-1 Four New Pence, 9-2 Father Brown, 6-1 Spring Vision, 8-1 Noirmont Point, 10-1 Le Harve, 14-1 others.

Wincanton selections

By Our Racing Correspondent
12.30 Philip the Bold. 1.0 Highland Abbe. 1.30 Mac's Birthday. 2.0 NEON STAR is specially recommended. 2.30 Land Lark. 3.0 Mama Roux.

Wolverhampton programme

12.30 OLDBURY STEEPLECHASE (Handicap: £442: 3m)

201-111 Near and Far, J. Edwards, 7-11-12) —
110-111 Just Given, A. Dickinson, 7-11-7) Barker
00-0340 Romanius, [illegible]) —
40-0200 Foster's Fleet, [illegible]) Mr Lawson 7
112-0f Hard Cash, B. Richards, 7-11-0) —
u03p43 Ludicrus Sextus, D. Richard, 7-10-[illegible]) —
01-1100 Dunhill, D. [illegible]) —
f3-3200 Bob Goscar, [illegible]) Bourke
0343-02 Portascarsan, [illegible]) —
p0f0u-0 Laurel Branch, [illegible]) —
18p230 Tarsina, [illegible]) —
4334u4 Inkanrada, [illegible]) —
Near and Far, 7-4 Just Given, 9-1 Romanius, 10-1 Inkanrada, 12-1 Hard Cash, Foster's Fleet, 20-1 others.

1.0 NETHERTON HURDLE (£442: 2½m)

03-3030 Thatch Acre, J. Pearce, 6-11-1) —
40-0f003 The Bishop (D), W. Price, 9-11-1) —
430 Corrieghoil, [illegible]) —
4-223 Hunked Again, [illegible]) —
0000-0 Lylord Gay (D), [illegible]) D. Leadbetter
Velvet King (D), [illegible]) Mr Evans 7
030- Willie Wimpleton (D), R. Nicholson, 6-11-1) Mr Jones 7
00 Piggy W., [illegible]) —
0 Dark Pulsum, [illegible]) Webber
000-40 Imperial Poise, [illegible]) Mr Waring 7
Travelscom, [illegible]) —
9-4 Corrieghoil, 11-4 Thatch Acre, 4-1 The Bishop, 6-1 Thatch Acre, 8-1 Lylord Gay, 10-1 Willie Wimpleton, 12-1 Velvet King, 20-1 others.

1.30 HARRY BROWN STEEPLECHASE (Handicap: £883: 2½m)

111-003 Canasta Lad, P. Bailey, 8-12-4) —
112121 Vultown (D), J. Gifford, 8-11-[illegible]) J. King
1-21231 Southern Lad (D), A. Stephenson, 7-11-8) —
032-232 Clarcville (D), J. Dunlop, 7-11-[illegible]) —
4p-234p Spanish Steps (D), E. Cousins, 11-11-7) —
31-p411 Romanza, R. Sumner, 7-11-6) Mr Jackson 7
0100-p03 Spectacular (CD), J. Edwards, 8-10-9) —
3p-4312 Dream Isle (C), J. Webber, 9-10-4) A. Webber
1-p140 Sport of Kings (D), W. Marshall, 6-10-1) H. Davies
0-02210 The Spoc, J. Gifford, 6-10-0) —
10-0030 Christmas Tree (C), D. Nicholson, 6-10-0) Mr Wilson 3
10210- Dulig (C), A. Davenport, 7-10-0) —
0303-1 Hasty Ben (D), I. Dickman, 7-10-0) D. Cartwright
0b04 Repline (D) J. Jones, 7-10-0) —
120-403 Zabo, H. Riley, 8-10-0) J. Bourke
7-2 Canasta Lad, 4-1 Vultown, 9-1 Clarcville, Southern Lad, 8-1 Spanish Steps, Romanza, 12-1 Christmas Tree, Hasty Ben, 14-1 others.

2.0 DEEPFIELDS STEEPLECHASE (£340: 2m)

14-30u All Courage, J. Wilkins, 7-11-0) Mr Wilkins 7
00 Bramble Boy, [illegible]) —
0-0400p0 Crafty Ann, R. Lucy, 6-11-0) —
2-0 Festive Prince, [illegible]) —
Helwalldun, [illegible]) —
00-000p Khalaiqiq, P. Milner, 7-11-0) —
0030u0 Kim Lad, [illegible]) —
203000 La Dance, W. Francis, 7-11-0) A. Taylor 7
0-103p4 Ludicrus Sextus, D. Durlacher, 7-11-0) G. Dunn
00031-0 The Prince, N. Davenport, 7-11-0) —
Cracker Ann, R. Lucy, 6-11-0) F. Collings 7
3401- Sea Wanderer, D. [illegible], 6-11-0) —
10p3fu Sunny Chief, D. Chick, 6-11-0) —
322-400 Winall, G. Owen, 6-11-0) J. Bourke
100-50 Sea Wanderer, 7-1 Festive Prince, 9-1 King Credo, 5-1 Winall, 7-1 Rocket Mike, 10-1 The Prince, 12-1 Sunny Chief, Ludicrus Sextus, 20-1 others.

2.30 WALSALL HURDLE (£442: 2m 7f)

11pf10- Notification, H. Tuite, 9-11-10) P. Collins
01202-2 Zeta's Son, P. Butler, 5-11-[illegible]) —
Chapelor, T. Forster, 7-10-12) —
0000-00 Mark Cross (C), M. Scudamore, 6-10-11) —
004000 Don Salvadan (C), J. Gifford, 5-10-10) —
Sans Escale, T. Forster, 8-10-7) —
410-030 Also, N. Tate, 6-10-5) Mr Evans 7
401000 Mountmorris, S. Davenport, 8-10-3) —
000033 Rosa Royal, T. Peacock, 6-10-1) Mr Charles 7
4p-p014 Cacsarsan, W. Jarvis, 9-10-0) S. Taylor
000-000 Border Javel, J. Rouse, 8-10-0) R. F. Davies
Rosa Royal, T. Peacock, 6-10-0) A. Mawson
01200-0 Celtic Delight, R. Hollinshead, 4-10-0) C. Salbury
04fp00 Evening Whaoos, T. Healey, 7-10-0) Mr Brookes 3
11-8 Zeta's Son, 5-1 Royal Rose, 7-1 Notification, 8-1 Sans Escale, 12-1 Also, Rosa Royal, 16-1 Cacsarsan, 20-1 others.

3.0 WREKIN HURDLE (£442: 2m)

00 Co-Partner (D), W. Jenks, 5-12-6) Mr Greenway 5
0-0211 Complicity (D), J. Purrell, 6-12-0) —
00-3020 Poartyric (D), W. Jenks, 9-11-1) Mr Jenks 5
3340-p0 Kon Boy (CD), P. Johnson, 7-11-10) —
0431-30 Penclosely (D), S. Cole, 9-11-8) —
0 Miraloo Joe, N. Tate, 6-11-7) Mr Evans 7
0p-000r Naval Affair (D), J. Johnson, 6-11-5) —
p-0 Manimet Line, R. Pope, 8-10-5) —
200-000 Rock Rose (D), A. Paterson, 5-10-5) Mr Paterson 7
2420p0 Moneyman, D. Page, 5-10-7) Mr Page 7
01003-0 Schopeful (CD), A. Tuite, 5-10-7) —
0-2pp00 Love Set (D), A. Souch, 8-10-7) —
10p00- Dado Army, J. Colston, 8-10-7) —
0-0 Slayonlive (D), R. Pincombe, 6-10-7) Mr R. Brown 7
0010-00 Tortworth (D), J. Lloyd, 7-10-7) —
1-00 Sweet Solo, J. Peacock, 4-10-7) —
p0 Maxmara, M. Collins, 5-10-7) Mr Collins 7
000-00 Moonlight Gambler, W. Taylor, 8-10-7) Mr Taylor 7
00-0424 Delight, J. Scott, 4-10-7) —
p-00000 Rocky Times, J. Clark, 5-10-7) —
50-0000 Haardrazade, J. Keen, 8-10-7) Mr Keen 7
0001- Ali Sat, N. Kilhorne, 7-10-7) —
3000 Plain Wolf, H. Ribbey, 8-10-7) Mr Charles 7
p0rrrr Magelitter, J. Wilce, 5-10-7) —
00 Rightful Ruler, J. Turner, 6-10-7) Mr Garton 7
0000-00 Martini Miss, H. Daly, 8-10-7) Mr O'Neill 7
0 Mourbriere, C. Miles, 12-10-7) —
9-4 Complicity, 4-1 Poartyric, 6-1 Miraloo Joe, 8-1 Co-Partner, Plain Wolf, 10-1 All Sat, 12-1 Penclosely, Delight, 20-1 others.

Wolverhampton selections

By Our Racing Staff
12.30 Near and Far. 1.0 Corrieghoil. 1.30 Vultown. 2.0 Winall. 2.30 ZETA'S SON is specially recommended. 3.0 Complicity.

By Our Newmarket Correspondent
1.30 Vultown.

Sedgefield programme

12.45 HARDWICK HURDLE (Handicap: £204: 2m)

000-010 *Timbo (D) F. Carr, 7-11-10) —
1120-00 Chadwick (CD) R. Barnes, 10-11-1) —
000-000 Running Fire (D), J. Berry, 5-11-0) R. Hanshaw 7
00-00 Master Pilot, V. Thompson, 9-11-0) —
02-0204 Jo Charn (CD), D. Kemp, 6-10-8) V. Percival 5
10-00 Honda Lane, D. Chapman, 7-10-1) —
0p000-0 Tavarocks, V. Thompson, 6-10-1) —
pp Ungani Creek (D), D. Chapman, 6-10-0) —
030-200 Roius, D. Chapman, 5-10-0) K. McCauley
030000 Bogbound, G. Lamb, 5-10-0) P. Mangan
0-0000 Avocet Tracy, D. Nesbitt, 5-10-0) D. Nesbitt
7-4 Running Fire, 5-2 Jo Charn, 4-1 Chadwick, 11-2 Roius, 10-1 Avocet Tracy, 16-1 others.

1.15 BRADBURY STEEPLECHASE (Handicap: £340: 3m 250yd)

2100-01 Donehill (C), A. Dickinson, 7-12-7) —
11-1404 Gulvain, K. Oliver, 5-11-5) —
40p-210 *Susan-Sira (CD), F. Carr, 11-10-10) —
012-341 Tab, K. Oliver, 5-10-7) —
121-f Miles Apart, A. Dickinson, 7-10-1) —
1f11 Perfect Match, W. A. Stephenson, 7-10-2) G. Faulkner 7
033002 Kildrummy, W. Crawford, 9-10-2) Mr Tinkler 7
000 Proud King (C), T. Barnes, 4-10-0) M. Barnes
2-1 Donehill, 4-1 Tab, 5-1 Miles Apart, 11-2 Kildrummy, 6-1 Artican, 10-1 Gulvain, 25-1 Proud King.

1.45 MORDON HURDLE (Div I: £204: 2m)

000 Ballykestrel, W. Crawford, 6-12-0) S. Taylor 5
00 Dear Jones, F. Walton, 5-12-0) Mr F. Walton 7
3223-0 Kemp's Lassie, W. A. Stephenson, 5-12-0) G. Faulkner 7
00-0 Privy Case, L. Sheddon, 5-12-0) —
03 Straight Lemon, A. Dickinson, 6-12-0) —
000-000 Uncle Arthur, C. Bell, 5-12-0) D. Nolan
003-004 Wintergreen, S. Coulthard, 5-12-0) R. Powell 5
pp-p000 Nersham Guide, W. Simpson, 4-11-9) A. Meaney
000 Rosat Chestnut, D. Williams, 4-11-9) —
100 Willow Walk, T. Barnes, 4-11-9) M. Barnes
22 Willow Walk, J. Calvert, 4-11-9) Mr Tinkler
01 Dardanella Lady (D), S. Norton, 5-11-7) —
401 Hanns Christol (D), W. Haigh, 5-11-7) Mr Oldham 7
Bramblers Farm, Denys Smith, 5-10-11) D. Goulding
3-1 Willow Walk, 7-2 Hanns Christol, 9-2 Dardanella Lady, 6-1 Straight Lemon, 8-1 King's Hussar, Rosat Chestnut, 10-1 Wintergreen, 16-1 others.

2.15 RENT ROLL CUP STEEPLECHASE (Handicap: £340: 2m)

1u-3403 Corswood (CD), W. A. Stephenson, 8-12-7) D. Goulding
002-312 Half a Sixpence (D), K. Oliver, 9-11-1) Capt Baillie 7
2114-0f Scottish Folly (CD), A. Bastiman, 7-11-2) —
12-0p30 Half Hooked (CD), J. Calvert, 8-11-1) E. Fletcher
00-210 Nice Shoe (D), W. Simpson, 9-10-7) A. Meaney
423122 Wyse Hill (D), Denys Smith, 7-10-6) —
15-8 Wyse Hill, 5-1 Corswood, 4-1 Half a Sixpence, 11-2 Half Hooked, 8-1 Scottish Folly, 12-1 Nice Shoe.

2.45 DURHAM STEEPLECHASE (£204: 2m)

00u-1 Tatters Inn (D), J. Howie, 6-12-10) D. Goulding
022343 Auckland, N. Chamberlain, 9-12-0) G. Faulkner 7
32-0041 Clarino (CD), F. Walton, 7-12-10) Mr J. Walton
0000-p Pin Zabi, W. Simpson, 6-12-0) —
00p0-04 Sailor Dan, W. Simpson, 7-12-0) A. Meaney
2-00302 Stars Monty, W. Simpson, 8-12-0) —
00002- Clary, W. A. Stephenson, 5-11-13) —
0010-30 Katie Klubben, D. Thompson, 5-11-13) D. Turnbull 7
400-u Superlip, S. Norton, 5-11-13) R. Fletcher
f00003 Never There, T. Barnes, 4-11-3) M. Barnes
17-8 Clarino, 11-1 Tatters Inn, 5-1 Auckland, Never There, 8-1 Stars Monty, 12-1 Clary, 20-1 others.

3.15 MORDON HURDLE (Div II: 204: 2m)

033-010 Tanora (CD), Denys Smith, 5-12-10) D. Goulding
000-120 Alystar (CD), A. Dickinson, 4-12-3) B. Powell 5
2-02200 Don Bernado, W. A. Stephenson, 9-12-0) —
2 Perfect Match, J. Calvert, 8-12-0) Mr Tinkler 7
0 Bright Baby, A. Kemp, 4-11-9) —
0000-00 Hello Louie, W. Page, 4-11-9) P. Mangan
22 Indian Giddis, W. Simpson, 4-11-9) A. Meaney
0-0003 *Paul's Lad, C. Bell, 4-12-5) —
0300-0 Windy Bank, R. Barnes, 4-11-9) —
031 Breakaduck (D), W. A. Stephenson, 5-11-7) R. Collins 7
012 Grey Aglow (D), S. Nesbitt, 5-11-7) D. Nesbitt 7
u4 Sesquirus Queen, T. Barnes, 5-11-7) M. Barnes
000 Mister Magic, D. Williams, 5-10-11) B. Fletcher
0000 Moschata, F. Walton, 5-10-11) Mr J. Walton
000 Red Account, W. A. Stephenson, 5-10-11) —
Seraq, S. Norton, 5-10-11) S. Nattriss
3-1 Tanora, 7-2 Alystar, 4-1 Grey Aglow, 6-1 Breakaduck, 8-1 Indian Giddis, 10-1 Perfect Match, 12-1 Don Bernado, 16-1 others.
*Doubtful runner.

Sedgefield selections

By Our Racing Staff
12.45 Jo Charn. 1.15 Donehill. 1.45 Straight Lemon. 2.15 Wyse Hill. 2.45 Clarino. 3.15 Breakaduck.

Huntingdon programme

12.30 ST IVO HURDLE (Handicap: Novice: £204: 2m 1f)

3-0 Blue Bulb, [illegible]) —
Presidaya, [illegible]) —
200-21 Captain George (CD), [illegible]) [illegible]
42-0120 Thousand Fire,

For Saving Investing and House-Purchase
HALIFAX BUILDING SOCIETY

THE TIMES BUSINESS NEWS

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For Saving Investing and House-Purchase
HALIFAX BUILDING SOCIETY

Requests for state aid pour in as pressure on costs and profitability intensifies

By Maurice Corina
Industrial Editor

The queue of industrial companies seeking state assistance is growing sharply as a result off the intensifying pressures on costs and profitability. Applications to the Department of Industry are now pouring in to Whitehall and regional offices.

Officials of the department now have under study 600 requests for selective financial assistance—and this is in spite of processing an unprecedented 860 applications since January.

All these applications have been lodged under Section 7 of the Industry Act to safeguard or to provide new jobs in hard-pressed regions. A large number of claims for interest relief grants are included.

Since January, the department has made offers of special assistance totalling £180m, nearly three times the level for last year and out-pacing even the more routine £171m paid out in regional development grants.

But the £180m worth of offers of state aid is not the full story. Departmental officials estimate that £160m more is involved in the 600 applications now awaiting decisions.

This huge surge in requests to the Government for taxpayer help comes on top of the much-publicized cases of a handful of companies seeking Section 8 assistance, ranging from Alfred Herbert to Ferranti and British Leyland.

Although new financing has yet to be fully worked out, the separate Finance for Industry organization, into which financial institutions are to channel funds for more medium-term borrowing, is experiencing a growing number of inquiries.

There is some evidence that some companies not yet named are among the firms seeking Section 8 aid, which can be given only if the national interest is involved or help cannot be obtained from conventional sources.

The department reports that there are now 14 applications under Section 8 provisions, apart from four offers which have been made and reported.

This is a big swing round. In September, Mr R. A. Clark, the chairman of the Industrial Development Advisory Board (who has opposed at least three of the offers) commented that few applications were being made under Section 8.

But even more startling is the surge in calls to Whitehall for special loans and interest relief grants under Section 7 of the Industry Act. Here financial assistance may be given if companies can argue that taxpayer help will provide, maintain, or protect employment. Offers being made to the proposed *Scottish Daily News* and IPD come under this section.

The fact that 1,460 separate applications have flowed into the department since January provides some measure of industry's search to supplement traditional ways of financing their capital programmes or dealing with special situations.

It is reasonable to assume that pressures have intensified in recent months. Although the offers made, or under consideration, involve £340m, only £40m of Section 7 aid has actually so far been paid out.

There is strong evidence that companies are more familiar with the types of aid available under the Industry Act, which is to be revised when new legislation is introduced after the parliamentary recess, creating the National Enterprise Board to reinforce Whitehall's capability for dealing with requests for selective assistance.

Settlement likely in US air rebates row

By Arthur Reed
Air Correspondent

A settlement now appears to be in sight in a long-standing United States investigation of illegal rebates paid by a number of large foreign airlines to travel agents.

Lawyers for the airlines have tentatively agreed that some of the charges should be admitted, and that "no contest" pleas should be entered in others.

Rebates to travel agents, amounting to many millions of dollars a year, have long been almost routine industry practice, particularly on the routes across the North Atlantic where airline competition is fierce.

Settling the investigation, which could lead to fines on some airlines, will eventually establish clear legal ground rules on rebates, while establishing a precedent for a greater access to records of foreign airlines by the United States government.

This in its turn would help investigations into alleged illegal rebating, so gradually stamping the practice out.

Go-ahead for Lonrho's Sudan sugar project

By John Woodland

Lonrho, the Pan-African trading conglomerate, has been given the go-ahead for its $180m (£77m) sugar project in Sudan. It is claimed it will be the largest single sugar estate in the world.

It is a joint venture linking European, Japanese and Arab capital with that of the Sudan Government which will have 51 per cent of the equity of Kenana Sugar Company who will operate the estate. Kenana will have an issued capital of nearly $30m.

The estate will have a capacity of more than 350,000 tons (some 50,000 tons more than originally envisaged) of white sugar and will begin production in November, 1977. The site has a fully developed potential of around 1m tons annually.

Since 1971 when Lonrho initiated the scheme with the Sudan Government more than 200 experts and technologists from Sudan, Europe, Japan, the United States and elsewhere in Africa have been deployed by Lonrho on aerial, topographical and soil survey, site selection, mill design and the design of an extensive pump and irrigation scheme to be fed from the White Nile.

At the site a canal has already been dug and water is due to commence flowing to the seed cane farm within one month. Meanwhile trials of cane varieties at the nursery site have already demonstrated promising results.

Sudan is currently a heavy sugar importer and this scheme will not only make it independent of imports but will enable it to export around 150,000 tons. It is certainly an excellent project for the Arab nations to invest some of their oil earnings.

Reuter reports from Suva that Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara, the Fijian Prime Minister, has renewed the Commonwealth sugar producers' ultimatum to cut supplies to Britain if there is no agreement on supplies to the European Economic Community.

Speaking on his return from two weeks of talks in London, Brussels and Dakar, he said: "The present agreement ends on December 31. If there is no agreement there will be no supply".

Mr Varley decides to wait as garages ignore the 10p limit

By Edward Townsend

The Department of Energy is not yet considering the reimposition of price controls on petrol despite the fact that garages throughout the country have ignored government pleas not to increase prices by more than 10p a gallon.

The biggest petrol price increase ever sanctioned in the United Kingdom came into force last Friday, coupled with the abolition of maximum retail price control and a warning from Mr Varley, the Energy Secretary, that should prices rise by more than 10p a gallon he would not hesitate to reinstate control.

This brought a bitter reaction from retailers' leaders who claimed that they needed at least another 1p to bolster falling profit margins. As a result, the price of four-star fuel has gone up to about 73½p in many areas.

A Department of Energy spokesman said yesterday, however, that the situation would have to be watched for some considerable time before a full assessment of prices could be made. Mr Varley was not considering bringing back controls at the moment.

Mr Varley's suggested 10p "limit" would give retailers the extra 1p that they had been demanding, said the spokesman. In fact, the Motor Agents Association, which represents the bulk of the country's garages, had asked for the extra margin before the increase was announced and the more militant Petroleum Retailers Association had demanded considerably more.

Mr Geoffrey Atkinson, the PRA's general secretary, said yesterday that the average four-star price was now 73.75p a gallon. In the West Country up to 75p a gallon was being charged, but in some areas cut-price petrol as low as 68p a gallon was being sold.

It now appeared that after last week's angry response from retailers to Mr Varley's 10p limit, any decision to reimpose controls would be delayed until the report from the Price Commission on petrol retailers' margins, expected in February, was published.

"I am confident this will show that we have been very modest with our present increases", he said.

Sindona bank faces interest rate inquiry

From John Earle
Rome, Dec 23

Several Italian public corporations are involved in allegations that Banca Unione, a member of the collapsed Sindona group, paid secret, supplementary interest rates on their deposit accounts with the bank. The extra money was allegedly paid to individuals, sometimes apparently with cheques made out to fictitious names.

According to *Panorama* magazine, Banca Unione paid an open interest rate on these deposits of 5.75 per cent, plus a supplementary rate of 1.75 per cent last year and this year. It named Finmeccanica, Ente Minerario Siciliano and Gescal, as among the corporations affected.

Finmeccanica, the engineering and mechanical holding company of the IRI parastatal group, was reported to have the biggest deposit, of about 50,000m lire (about £33m). Ente Minerario Siciliano, the Sicilian regional authorities' mining and mineral enterprise was said to have a deposit of about 7,500m lire, and Gescal, a public body which builds workers' houses, about 10,000m lire.

In the case of Finmeccanica, *Panorama* said the "black" payments were made with non-transferable cheques to a person whose name it gave but did not identify as real or fictitious. Officials of Finmeccanica were not available for comment, while officials of the parent corporation, IRI, referred inquiries to Finmeccanica.

As far as Ente Minerario Siciliano was concerned, the magazine said "black" payment cheques, totalling about 70m lire (nearly £47,000) were made out to fictitious names. These were cashed by two individuals whom the magazine identified and who have senior positions with the company.

The Sicilian regional government has in the meantime ordered an inquiry, and promised to publish the results. The board of the Ente Minerario, after receiving letters from the two individuals denying any connexion with the mit all relevant documentation to the regional government. The neo-fascists in the regional assembly want the two officials suspended.

In the case of Gescal, *Panorama* said 10 cheques, each of 5m lire, were received by a Christian Democrat senator who is a junior minister, while other cheques, totalling 175m lire, were made out to a woman.

Banca Unione was merged last summer by Signor Sindona with his Banca Privata Finanziaria to form Banca Privata Italiana, now in enforced liquidation. Signor Sindona, who is somewhere abroad, is wanted by the Italian authorities for arrest on several charges, including falsifying accounts.

Cut in oil imports aids France

A drop in oil imports in November substantially helped France's foreign trade position for the month, actually pushing it into a small surplus on an unadjusted basis, official sources said.

France had an unadjusted surplus of 65m francs (about £6.5m) in November, compared with a deficit of 926m francs in October. On an adjusted basis the November deficit was 218m francs against a 1,489m francs shortfall in October.

Crude oil imports totalled 7 million tonnes in November, down sharply from 11.4 million in October and 11.8 million in November 1973.

Aluminium output up

Primary aluminium production in the non-communist world rose by 7.3 per cent last month over November, 1973, to 145,000 tonnes, the International Primary Aluminium Institute reported yesterday.

Average daily output in November was 30,500 tonnes compared with 30,200 tonnes in October and 28,400 tonnes in November, last year.

US lead-petrol ruling

The United States circuit Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia has ruled to set aside plans by the United States Environmental Protection Agency for a gradual reduction of lead in gasoline, according to Ethyl Corporation. Regulations set up by the EPA were challenged by various chemical and oil companies.

Nigeria loan to IMF

The International Monetary Fund has completed arrangements to borrow credits worth $120m from Nigeria to help to finance oil credits to other countries. The World Bank has also borrowed $240m from Nigeria at 8 per cent interest.

Mt ISA purchase

Mount Isa Mines is to purchase Placer Prospecting (Australia), a subsidiary of Placer Exploration, for about $9m (£5.8m). The agreement provides for the immediate repayment of a loan of $2m to Placer Exploration and the deal is subject to Australian government approval.

Honeywell £12m sale

Ford Motors has ordered 26m (nearly £12m) of Honeywell's new series 60 computers for use in its automotive assembly division plants, Honeywell said.

Chloride rights issue

About 35 per cent of Chloride Group's £7m one-for-four rights issue at 40p a share has been taken up by shareholders. The remaining 65 per cent has been taken up by the underwriters.

ITT accepts Avis plan

International Telephone and Telegraph Corporation (ITT) yesterday accepted the Justice Department's plan for the company to sell its Avis stake.

Italian output drops

Confindustria, Italy's national association of manufacturers, said in a report published yesterday that industrial production in Italy in the fourth quarter would be 4.2 per cent below that of the same 1973 period.

Glimmer of hope in Courtaulds dispute

A glimmer of hope emerged in the Courtaulds dispute at Grimsby yesterday when Mr Percy Brewer, Courtaulds' works manager, said that he was willing to meet the unions at any time.

The group's acrylics plant at Grimsby has been closed because of industrial disruption, putting at least 1,000 men out of work for Christmas.

Meanwhile Mr Anthony Crosland, in whose constituency the plant lies, said: "It is a scandal that the management had not one single meeting with the union officials between November 27 and the unilateral 'fait accompli' decision last Friday".

"Such authoritarian behaviour goes totally counter to all modern ideas about the need for close consultation between management and workers and for greater industrial democracy", he added.

Mr Crosland said that he had written to Mr Michael Foot, Secretary of State for Employment, telling him that there could not be an industrial dispute when management and unions had not met for three weeks before the decision to close the plant.

Men laid off at Courtaulds have been refused unemployment benefit because the company maintains that an industrial dispute exists.

EEC calls for shares ban in French takeover battle

Paris, Dec 23.—The Paris Stock Brokers Association has suspended trading in Marine-Firminy shares following intervention by the Commission of the European Economic Community, the association said today.

The commission has called on the association to forbid Cie Lorraine Industrielle et Financiere (CLIF) from purchasing more Firminy stock. CLIF, which is the holding company of the de Wendel Group, are reported to have bought more than 20 per cent of Firminy's stock in the past three weeks.

Wendels interest follows the take-over bid for Firminy launched by the Denain Nord-est Longwy Group through an exchange of shares.

Denain's offer, valid until January 23, has also been opposed by the French-Belgian Empain-Schneider group which owns 23 per cent of Firminy's shares. Furthermore, the board of Firminy said it could not recommend acceptance of Denain's offer.

The offer involves the exchange of one Firminy share for one share of Usinor, which Denain controls, plus a cash bonus of 45 francs, on the basis of Monday's closing price of 94.80 francs for Usinor shares.

Italy cuts bank rate to 8pc to boost exports and jobs

Rome, Dec 23.—Italy's bank rate will be reduced to 8 per cent from 9 per cent, the Treasury Ministry announced today. The change will take effect from Friday.

The rate was last changed on March 20 this year when it was raised to 9 per cent from 6½ per cent.

Bank of Italy sources said the rate was cut to stimulate exports, encourage investment and boost employment. Nearly a million are out of work in Italy.

Earlier this month, major Italian commercial banks raised their prime lending rate to 19 per cent from 18.5 per cent. Rates to non-prime customers were also raised to an effective 21.55 per cent from 21 per cent.

Official figures published today showed that the cost of living in Italy increased 25.2 per cent in the 12 months to November while Italy's balance of payments deficit reached 3,138,900m lire (about £2,050m) in the first 10 months this year.—Reuter.

Mr Michael Posner to join Treasury

Mr Michael Posner (above), lecturer in economics and chairman of the faculty board of economics and politics of Cambridge University, and fellow and director of studies in economics at Pembroke College, has been appointed deputy chief economic adviser to the Treasury.

Mr Posner, who is 43, will initially work part time at the Treasury and take up his appointment full time in the summer.

GM 'disagrees' with finding

Antwerp, Dec 23.—General Motors Continental said today that it "strongly disagrees" with the European Economic Community Commission finding that its Belgian unit violated competition rules in the EEC.

The Commission fined GM Continental 100,000 units of account (£50,000) for allegedly charging excessive prices for inspecting and issuing type approval documents for Opel cars brought into Belgium not imported by itself. Opels are made by GM's West German unit, Adam Opel AG.—AP-Dow Jones.

Arab eyes on Borel

Jacques Borel, the French hotel group, is negotiating with Arab interests who are considering associating themselves with the group's activities and possibly taking a share stake. Nine-month operating profits are up from 15.5m francs to 25.6m francs and full-year profits are expected to be 35 per cent up at 33m francs.

Adelaide SE fines director of Poseidon

From Our Correspondent
Adelaide, Dec 23

Mr Norman Shierlaw, whose name was most frequently linked with the Poseidon share boom four years ago, has been suspended for three months by the Stock Exchange at Adelaide, from where the company operates. Mr Shierlaw is a Poseidon director and sharebroker in Adelaide.

He has also been fined $A2,100 (about £1,400). The stock exchange announced this today after Mr Shierlaw had withdrawn an appeal against the exchange committee's ruling.

The exchange investigation followed an inquiry into Australian stock exchange dealings by a Federal Senate select committee. The Senate report said that Mr Shierlaw and Poseidon's consulting geologists had bought large numbers of Poseidon shares before any public announcement of the company's nickel discovery.

The senate report criticized Mr Shierlaw for exploiting his "insider" knowledge.

Mr Shierlaw was unavailable for comment today and Poseidon shares, which at the height of the boom touched $A280, closed at $A4.75 on the Adelaide exchange today.

Kuwait has liquidity problem

Despite earning about $8,000m from oil revenue in 1974, Kuwait has faced a liquidity shortage since May, say financial sources. This has meant a cutback in lending by banks and a fall in share prices.

The shortage was caused by a large demand for credit when deposits could not keep pace with loans, and higher import costs.

Clamp down on forged trans-Europe permits

By Clifford Webb

Scotland Yard is being supported by the Department of the Environment to stop British haulage companies using forged international permits to break into the booming trans-Europe trucking business.

The permits, required to cross international frontiers, are issued by the governments of individual countries. They are limited in number to discourage foreign operators. The Department of the Environment receives block allocations of permits and is responsible for choosing which British operators can have them.

The majority go to haulage companies with established European business and this has caused a great deal of resentment from other companies of heavy trucks to deliver British exports and return with imports.

The result is a flourishing trade in forged documents. The manager of a large Midland haulage concern said yesterday: "The use of forged permits is now so widespread that almost everyone in the business knows about it. They cost between £5 and £10 each and most of them seem to originate from somewhere in the East End of London."

There have already been a number of successful prosecutions for using forged documents, but so far the illicit printers have escaped detection. A Department of the Environment spokesman said yesterday: "We are keen to get our hands on as many examples of these forgeries as possible. It is something we intend to stamp out and we are cooperating with the police authorities to do this."

Motor Transport, the industry's weekly newspaper, recently reported that it had purchased forged German, Austrian and Yugoslav permits for £35. A member of its staff telephoned a number obtained from "a friend in the trade" and arranged a meeting in a stockbroker belt. Some of the permits were handed over on that occasion and the remainder the following evening.

Motor Transport commented: "Getting hold of a set of spurious permits was therefore a straightforward business. Quite a smooth operation . . . there was no limit to the number of forgeries available."

Car output in Europe continues to decline

Paris, Dec 23.—French motor industry exports weakened only slightly in the first 11 months of 1974 while production declined 5 per cent in volume and new car registrations dropped 13.9 per cent during the same period, the industry federation said today.

The federation said, however, that the industry's situation worsened "considerably" in November with production off 18.2 per cent from a year earlier, while exports and new car registrations declined 12.5 per cent and 27 per cent respectively.

It blamed the deterioration on the general economic downtrend.

French car output in November declined to 282,468 units from 343,948 in October and 345,325 in November, 1973.

Production for the first 11 months totalled 3,187,070 units, including 2,801,905 private vehicles, down from 3,308,252 and 2,948,785, respectively, last year.

November exports totalled 157,600 vehicles, including 139,840 private cars, down from 173,360 and 159,770 respectively, in November, 1973. First 11-month exports totalled 1,777,565 units, down from 1,176,564 a year earlier.

New car registrations in November totalled 124,595. Import figures were not available.

German output down: West Germany's motor vehicle production declined to 243,656 units in November from 295,168 units in October and from 343,164 units in November a year ago, the automobile industry federation reported.

November passenger car production dropped to 202,866 units from 249,144 units in October and from 298,888 units in November, 1973.

Motor vehicle exports declined to 137,699 units in November from October's 155,231 units and from 201,936 units in November, 1973. The 11-month production declined to 2,922,889 units from 3,706,022 units in the like 1973 period, while 11-month motor vehicle exports dropped to 1,739,642 units from 2,166,560 units.—AP-Dow Jones.

Chile's acquisition: The Chilean government will soon acquire the 49 per cent interest owned by Citroen S.A. in a car assembly plant at Ariga, Chile, company officials said.

The government-owned Corfo company already owns 51 per cent of Citroen-Chile, which assembles about 6,000 units per year. Negotiations for the takeover are being carried out at Santiago, the officials said.

Toyota cutback: Toyota Motor said it plans to halve its capital outlay for the fiscal year beginning next April. The firm said the reduction reflects a slump in domestic car sales.

Ceremony for first platinum assay hallmark

The Worshipful Company of Goldsmiths is inviting 800 manufacturing jewellers and silversmiths to Goldsmiths' Hall on January 2 to witness the marking of the first pieces of platinum tested by the London Assay Office under the new Hallmarking Act.

The Goldsmiths' Company has been responsible for assaying the purity of gold and silver wares since 1300 and when the new Hallmarking Act passed in 1973 comes into force on January 1, they will also begin to assay platinum for the first time, checking that each article is at least 95 per cent pure before hallmarking it with the new symbol of an orb surmounted by a cross.

First piece to be hallmarked will be the Platinum Medal awarded by the Institute of Metals to Professor Robert Hutton, who was for many years chairman of the Assay Office Committee of the Goldsmiths' Company.

Nation Life liquidator granted extension

An extension to run Nation Life Assurance as a going concern for another three months has been granted to Mr Gerry Weiss, the liquidator.

Under the new Insurance Companies Amendment Act, 1973, a liquidator of an insurance company is allowed to run the company on this basis for six months in order to try and find a positive solution to the situation.

Mr Weiss's original order expires at the end of the month.

Keyser Ullmann profit well down in half year

Profits of Keyser Ullmann Holdings, the merchant banking group, were "substantially less" in the half year to the end of September than those in the corresponding half last year.

Last year Keyser made a profit of £5.1m.

Despite the downturn, an unchanged net dividend is being paid which, because of taxation changes, means an increase in the gross dividend from 1.57p to 1.64p a share.

Money supply figures clarified

Because of errors in the Bank of England money supply statistics, published on Monday, it was necessary to withhold our regular table. Following clarification of the official figures the table now appears below.

MONEY SUPPLY

The following are the figures released for the monthly amount of the money stock, seasonally adjusted, at the mid-month make-up date.

	M1 £000m	M3 £000m	Percentage change over 3 months at an annual rate M1	M3
1973				
Nov	12.3	31.3	−9.5	24.8
Dec	12.3	32.2	−0.9	27.6
1974				
Jan	12.4	32.8	6.4	25.3
Feb	12.3	33.4	−2.0	29.5
March	12.3	33.4	−2.6	15.6
April	12.6	33.5	7.6	6.5
May	12.5	33.6	9.4	2.2
June	12.4	33.5	6.3	0.6
July	12.6	34.5	0.0	13.8
Aug	12.7	34.9	6.6	16.5
Sept	12.7	35.0	11.1	18.6
Oct	12.9	35.2	11.7	6.9
Nov	13.0	35.6	11.0	8.2

On other pages

Appointments vacant	6
Financial news	16, 18
Wall Street	18
Unit trust prices	18
Market reports	18
Share prices	19
Bank Base Rates Table	18
Company Notices:	
G.F.S.A.	16

How the markets moved

The Times index: 64.51 −1.15
FT index: 160.8 −2.7

Rises

Beecham Grp	1p to 121p
CLRP Inv	3p to 251p
Crowther, J.	2p to 22p
Cons Goldfields	8p to 250p
Fodens	4p to 16p
Greens Econ	4p to 37p
Highland	8p to 72p
Home Charm	1p to 30p
Lee Cooper	5p to 45p
Moss Bros	4p to 27p
Sanitast	5p to 360p
Unilever	2p to 173p
Western Areas	40p to 660p
Welkom	15p to 520p

Falls

Berisfords	4p to 15p
Barclays Bk	4p to 122p
Boots	4p to 95p
Bowater Corp	5p to 71p
Courtaulds	2p to 56p
Hammerson	5p to 165p
Hawker Sidd	4p to 140p
Imp Chem Ind	4p to 123p
Lewston Int	3p to 8p
MEPC	5p to 82p
Prop Hldgs	7p to 103p
Saugers	5p to 24p
Stock Conv	5p to 65p
Vickers	2p to 70p

Equities were featured by activity in gold shares.

Gilt-edged securities remained quiet.

Sterling gained 50 points at $2.3305. The "effective devaluation" rate was 21.5 per cent.

Gold jumped $5 to $195.

SDR-$ was 1.21040 while SDR-£ was 0.521969.

Commodities: Sugar prices rose sharply with gains ranging to £30; the London daily quotation was lifted £25 to £440. Cocoa futures advanced between £3.50 and £10 while coffee lost between £1.50 and £4.50. Copper advanced £1 and tin £8.50. Lead was £2.50 higher, and LME silver gained 5.1p. Reuters index was 4.3 up at 1,180.7.

Reports, page 18

THE POUND

	Bank buys	Bank sells
Australia $	1.82	1.77
Austria Sch	41.50	39.50
Belgium Fr	88.75	85.00
Canada $	2.35	2.30
Denmark Kr	13.70	13.30
Finland Mkk	8.65	8.40
France Fr	10.60	10.30
Germany DM	5.80	5.60
Greece Dr	72.35	69.50
Hongkong $	10.95	10.60
Italy Lr	1,560.00	1,510.00
Japan Yn	730.00	705.00
Netherlands Gld	6.05	5.85
Norway Kr	12.55	12.20
Portugal Esc	58.50	56.00
S Africa Rd	1.75	1.68
Spain Pes	135.00	131.00
Sweden Kr	9.90	9.60
Switzerland Fr	6.15	5.95
US $	2.37	2.32
Yugoslavia Dnr	42.50	40.75

Rates for bank notes only as supplied yesterday by Barclays Bank International Ltd. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

NCB chief promises miners top place in wages league

By David Young

Sir Derek Ezra, National Coal Board chairman, yesterday told miners in Scotland that recent improved coal output has increased hopes that the target of 120 million tons being produced in the year ending in March can be reached.

He was speaking to miners at the invitation of Mr Mick McGahey, president of the Scottish Mineworkers' Union and vice-president of the NUM. Sir Derek also told the miners that the NCB had to make sure that they stayed at the top of the wages league.

While at the Monktonhall colliery near Edinburgh, the NCB chairman took the opportunity to discuss with Scottish union officials details of the NCB's productivity drive.

Both sides expressed complete agreement on a firm commitment to reach the Scottish output target of 10 million tons as "quickly as possible". Sir Derek said that over £60m was to be spent in the next 10 years in improving existing Scottish collieries and on new developments.

Each year for the next five years £1m is to be spent on developing the new Seafield colliery and early next year the first radio-controlled coal shearer to be used in a British pit will be in operation at Seafield.

Sir Derek said that recent productivity had been encouraging. He said: "This is not a question of speeding up miners, it is not a question of increased muscle power. It is a question of utilizing more efficiently the machinery that is there at their disposal."

A FINANCIAL PANTOMIME

Babes in the Wood
or
Great Britain on Ice

DRAMATIS PERSONNAE:

The Babes
Big Benn
Denis the Menace
Widow Twankey
The Teddy Bears
Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves
The Mad Hatter
Poore Dennis of Mediden
King Harold
Dame Threadneedle
Uncle Relever

AND

Making his first ever stage appearance

Sir Loan Ryder on the Pantomime Horse "NEB"

Act I, sc 1:

The curtain rises on a scene of primeval gloom. The time is the beginning of the three-day year 1974, and the whole stage is plunged in darkness and despair. Enter the Babes, bearing flickering (imported) candles.

BABES: "Oh woe! Woe, woe, oh woe are we.
Thus plunged in dark and penury.
We thought to climb the index high
To Treasure Islands in the sky;
But as we climbed Inflation roared
About its roots, where money poured
To feed our growth, but fuelled its greed—
Reducing us to present need.
For as we clung, stock shortage then
Beset our quiv'ring beanstalk; when
Supplies of money dried and sank.
It gasped 'Liquidity!' and shrank.
So here stand we, our backs near bare—
Portfolios in tatters there.
By Frozen Dividends we're chilled,
By fierce Inflation well-nigh killed.
We hope for rescue and repair—
Yet fear attack and feel despair".

Sudden cries of battle. Enter a victorious army from the Left, with King Harold at its head.

HAROLD: "Why shiver here in darkling wood?
A Labour draught will do you good.
The Blues are gone. We'll make all bright.
Go! End the strikes! Let there be light!"

As the curtain falls the houselights go up and instantly fuse again.

Act I, sc 2:

The babes are still benighted, their miserable belongings shrunk even smaller. Enter Denis the Menace, who rushes up to the Babes, embracing them with mock affection.

THE MENACE: "Why Babes! What's this? You're frightened sore,
But shadows of yourselves of yore.
Come to my arms—no need to shriek—
(*Aside to audience*: "I'll squeak!
The little dears! They've money yet—
Transfers of capital I'm set
To tax away. I'll clinch the squeeze
With surcharges on companies.
I'll act on ACT and milk 'em dry.
What of Inflation? He roars high—
I'd best pretend to wear him down
With fiscal fusillade and frown—
But I'll not starve the beast in haste:
He might lay my constituency waste!"

Exit Denis the Menace, stage left.

THE BABES: "O! the days when bulls roamed, frisking
Through the land, all fortune risking
On tip, or rumour, or p/e!
Then for dividends fast growing—
Cover strong and prospects glowing—
None like Twankey's Laund-er-y!
'We wash it Whyter'—was her credo
To her clients' ecstasy—
Come! We'll comfort find at Widow
Twankey's Chinese Laund-er-y".

Act I, sc 3:

Triumphal entry to Twankey's Laundry.

WIDOW: "I've your shirts, I've your deposits,
I'm authorized, babes, don't you see?
But all is lost, for all is over
At Widow Twankey's Laund-er-y"
[illegible] lies our route?
Our shirts are gone, we're destitute!
Oh, where to turn? Whom to entreat?
Our last resort: Threadneedle Street".

As the Babes nervously approach Dame Threadneedle's residence, there comes the sound of a rumpus in nearby Throgmorton Street.

CHORUS OF BEARS: "If you come down to the Stock Exchange, you're in for a big surprise,
If you come down to the Stock Exchange, you'll never believe your eyes.
For every bear that ever there was
Is at the Stock Exchange, because
This is the year the teddy bears have their picnic!
If you need quick relief today, we'll offer you breakfast and bed,
It's a capital way of taking a loss, and it's yet to be hit on the head.
And every bear that ever there was
Is at the Stock Exchange, because
This is the year the teddy bears have their picnic!"

BABES (*in horror*): "Oh! we must flee the Bears and seek aid from Dame Threadneedle; she is safe and staid" (*over fatal warning sounds (off)*.

Attributed to:
Adrienne Gleeson
Margaret Drummond
Anthony Rowley

Act II, sc 1:

At Dame Threadneedle's. The Dame, with cronies, sits knitting.

DAME: "Away! Be off! I've nought for you.
I'm knitting here with Grand'ma Pru
As dread Sir Kenneth Corpse chops down
The bankruptcies and spivs of Town.
That was a secondary!—Go!
Tap stocks are off, and much too low
Is at the Stock Exchange, because
This is the year the teddy bears have their picnic!"

BABES: "Alas! alas! what shall we do?"

DAME: "Away! You'll never whine or wheedle
Your way around stout Dame Threadneedle!"

Act III, sc 1:

Babes wend their sad way through the City of London. Shed tears here, good reader, for fresh perils await them. Enter Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves (alias the OPEC horde).

ALI BABA, etc (*To the tune of "A bicycle made for two"*):
"Babies, babies, come and recycle, do,
We'll buy assets, and sing desert songs in lieu.
Although at Teh'ran you fought us,
We've oil for troubled waters,
And we'll C.U., whatever you do, for as far as it concerns us,
Babies, babies, come and recycle, do,
We'll buy Daimlers, and London blocks from you.
As capitalists we look funny,
And we ain't so keen on your money,
But just Kuwait, we've got a date, with Dame Threadneedle, too.
Babies, babies, come and recycle, do,
It may sound crazy, but we're being nice to you.
For the loan of Emir £2 billion
You can jump, and we'll dance a cotillion
And ring the till, for our interest will inevitably accrue."
Supplies of money dribble through."

BABES: "Alas! alas! what shall we do?"

DAME: "Away! You'll never whine or wheedle
Your way around stout Dame Threadneedle!"

Act IV, sc 1:

Babes, in final desperation, stumble upon the Mad Hatter's Tea Party at Westminster. Out of his magic cabinet (now you see him, now you don't) steps Big Benn, shadowed by Uncle Relever who looks unconvinced.

BIG BENN: "In for a penny, in for a pound.
I like scattering largesse round."

BABES: "Oh! Give them back! They're our possessions!"

BIG BENN: "Who dares to challenge my obsessions?"

BABES: "There's Aunt Nancy, a framed beauty
Sold to meet her estate duty.
Cousin Billy's gilts and lands,
And his twenty kruggerrands
Have gone to meet his CGT—
And Daddy's stake in BMC
Is worthless now it's come unstuck
—He thinks it should be broken up.
For who needs cars with such inflation?"

BIG BENN: "I do—if I'm to save the nation.
I'll wrench it from disaster's brink . . ."

BABES: "He's kleptomaniac, we think."

Enter Poore Dennis of Meriden on his half-finished NVT (Not Very Triumphant) motorcycle.

POORE DENNIS: "I'm Ferrantic, I need cash
You promised it . . ."

ALL: "Oh! That was rash!"

POORE DENNIS: "Enough of you, your trouble's small—
We stand to lose, go to the wall.
Our orders hover, cash funds sink
In debt we're at the very brink—
Oh! lead us hence, for here you lied . . ."

BIG BENN (*sotto voce*): "I'm sick of this." (*Full voice*): "Off with his head!"

King Harold enters absent mindedly...

HAROLD: "Weevils here, weevils there,
"I'll seek weevils everywhere!"

Act IV, sc 2:

The end seems high. Enter (as if inspired) the Pantomime Horse "NEB". On his back is Sir Loan Ryder.

SIR LOAN RYDER: "Whoa! Neddy! Whoops! that should be Nebby!"

(*Aside to audience*): "Well, they're all from the same stable, aren't they."

ALL: "All hail! the saviour of the hour appears!
He'll Mirror all our woes and soothe our fears.
Press on, Sir Don, instruct us in the ways
By which we'll win through to more affluent days."

SIR LOAN: (*enigmatic silence*).

Final Curtain

Will the Babes survive?
Will Big Benn strike again?
Will Sir Loan come a cropper?

Extra copies available from *The Times* Business News: one petrodollar each.

Business News Christmas Quiz

1. Which industrial or commercial grouping is Britain's biggest employer?
   a. Barclay's Bank
   b. British Leyland Motor Company
   c. The Post Office

2. Which is Britain's most efficient company as measured by return on capital employed?
   a. Fluor (England)
   b. J. Coral (Holdings)
   c. Roche Products

3. How many nationalized industries lost money in 1973-74?
   a. One
   b. Five
   c. Seven

4. Which is biggest in terms of sales?
   a. "Shell" Transport and Trading
   b. Standard Oil of California
   c. Nippon Oil

5. Which British bank trading mainly overseas makes the most profit?
   a. Lloyds Bank International
   b. Standard and Chartered Banking Group
   c. Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation

6. Which is Germany's biggest chemical company?
   a. Bayer AG
   b. BASFAG
   c. Farbwerke Hoechst AG

7. Which is biggest?
   a. The British Steel Corporation
   b. August Thyssen Hutte AG of Germany
   c. Nippon Steel

8. Who is the major shareholder in
   a. Consolidated Tin Smelters
   b. Marks and Spencer
   c. Tozer Kemsley & Millbourn (Holding)

9. Which British company has most managing directors and how many?
   a. British & Commonwealth Shipping
   b. British Petroleum
   c. British Enkalon

10. Did the average return on assets for Britain's top thousand commercial and industrial companies rise or fall between 1972 and 73?

11. Which British company recorded the biggest absolute rise in profits in 1973-74?
   a. Honeywell
   b. British Petroleum
   c. Rio Tinto Zinc

12. Which was the biggest company takeover or merger of 1973-74?
   a. Navcot Shipping for Shipping Industrial
   b. P&O for Bovis Holdings
   c. Great Universal Stores for Lennards

Answers at the foot of columns seven and eight

The answers to thousands of questions like these can be found in the current issue of *The Times 1000*, available from leading booksellers or from *Times Newspapers Ltd*, 32 Wharf Road, London, N1 7SD, £2.50 plus 25p postage and packing.

FINANCIAL NEWS

European ban on beef and veal imports topples J E Sanger midway profit

Dropping short of its prospectus forecast in the year to March 31, interim figures of meat traders J. E. Sanger for the six months to September 30 slumped heavily—thanks to the total ban on beef and veal imports into the EEC.

Turnover was more than halved to £14.14m, on which pre-tax profit collapsed from £896,000 to £165,000, and the "attributable" from £399,000 to £73,000. An interim dividend of 1.12p, payable February 24, is proposed.

The European ban, extended indefinitely, continues severely to restrict group trading. Its effect on the results was worsened by uncertainty in the trade over the agricultural policy of the EEC, continued placing of beef into intervention stocks, and overall fall in demand.

However, Mr J. E. Sanger, chairman, says the group's flexibility in organization is beginning to take effect in the second half, and trading generally has shown some recovery in recent months.

Samuel Props' sails trimmed

Samuel Properties, which earlier this month announced a £42m funding operation for its major developments, discloses in its annual report that year-end net assets were down from 107p to 81p a share. This largely reflected a revaluation of the group's United Kingdom investment properties at £32.1m—some £7.3m below former book value.

Midland in new consortium

In its latest venture, the Midland Bank has taken a 15 per cent stake in Banque Europeene Pour l'Amerique Latine, which has been established to take the place of Banque Italo-Belge—the main shareholders of which were Soviete Generale de Banque, Credito Italiano, and Credit Suisse.

In the new arrangement, these are joined by Midland, Amsterdam-Rotterdam, Bank, Soviete Generale, Paris, and Banco Espanol de Credito.

Loss by Polly Peck

Because of a deficit from the property division, Polly Peck had a taxable loss of £53,0[illegible] against a profit of £285,000. [illegible] the half to September 30. T[illegible] property side has been hit [illegible] high interest rates, but t[illegible] board will not make sales [illegible] "unrealistic prices". The di[illegible] dend is cut from 0.5p to 0.2[illegible]

Sime Darby's $6.5m disposal

Sime Darby has accepted [illegible] offer from the Glendon Corpo[illegible]tion for its Woodward [illegible] Dickerson subsidiaries, deal[illegible] in fertilizer and allied produ[illegible] Glendon is controlled by Mr [illegible] Wurster, president of Wo[illegible]ward & Dickerson, based [illegible] Philadelphia.

The purchase price is eit[illegible] $6.3m cash (£2.9m) payable [illegible] completion on January 31, [illegible] $7.5m cash, of which $3.5m [illegible] be paid in January and [illegible] balance in two equal instalme[illegible] one year and two years la[illegible] Sime Darby will continue [illegible] trade in fertilizers on a wor[illegible] wide basis as it did before [illegible] purchase of Woodward [illegible] Dickerson in March last year.

United Artists move to block possible bid

In an attempt to block [illegible] apparent takeover attempt [illegible] Hanson Trust, which now ho[illegible] 28 per cent of the equity, Uni[illegible] Artists Theatre Circuit has fi[illegible] a suit in a United States Distr[illegible] Court. UATC says that its dir[illegible]tors beneficially hold 42 per c[illegible] of the equity and, in additi[illegible] officers of the company h[illegible] another 3 per cent.

In its suit, the company alle[illegible] that Hanson's activities in c[illegible]nection with its purchas[illegible] amounted to a tender offer a[illegible] violated the Securities Exchan[illegible] Act.

In order to stop Hanson fr[illegible] gaining control, the board [illegible] prepared to raise its own sh[illegible] stake in the company.

Moss Bros slide

Due in the main to inter[illegible] charges, which rose by £69,0[illegible] profits of Moss Bros were [illegible] from £105,000 to £52,000 [illegible] tax in the nine months [illegible] October 26. There is no di[illegible]dend (1.8p), but a final will [illegible] paid earlier than usual, pr[illegible]ably at the beginning of July.

In late dealings on the mark[illegible] the shares dipped 4½p to 26½p [illegible]

Issues & Loans

Another trust repays loans

New York & Gartmore Investment Trust has joined the growing number of trusts repaying loans. It has arranged repayment of £3m of sterling deposit and $6.5m of dollar loans, leaving respectively £2.75m and $7m of loans outstanding.

Both the deposit and the loan were originally negotiated for a period of five years to November, 1977, at fixed rates of interest. The dollar loan currently shows a shortfall of some £300,000 at current rates of investment currency in relation to its holdings of American securities and cash.

After deducting this contingent liability, the asset value is abo[illegible] 2½p a share.

£7.3m for Finland

A £7.3m line of credit has be[illegible] arranged for Rautaruukki Oy [illegible] Helsinki with the backing of [illegible] Export Credits Guarantee Depa[illegible]ment. The deal has been arrang[illegible] by Lazard Bros and is the fi[illegible] to have been signed between [illegible] bank and Rautaruukki since 19[illegible]

French DM issue

Caisse Nationale des Autoro[illegible] of France will shortly issu[illegible] DM100m seven-year loan, wit[illegible] proposed coupon of 9¾ per c[illegible] The issue price has yet to be s[illegible] co-managers are Westdeut[illegible] Landesbank Girozentrale [illegible] Deutsche Kommunalbank-Deut[illegible] Girozentrale.

A further Commonwealth [illegible] Australia DM loan may be flo[illegible] in the New Year. Australia iss[illegible] a DM200m 10 per cent. six-y[illegible] loan at 99 per cent in October.

Eurobond prices (midday indicators)

$ STRAIGHTS	Bid	Offer
Airtease 8¾ 1988	74	77
Amer Motors 9 1989	80	88
Anglo-American 7¾ 1987	67	70
Ashland 8 1987	83½	85½
Australwide 8 1987	87	88
BICC 7¾ 1987	60	65
Bluebell 7¾ 1987	68	73
Bristol 8¾ 1979	87	89
Brit Steel Corp 9¾ 1989	78	81
Burlington 7¾ 1987	83½	84½
Cadbury 7¾ 1990	58	62
Carrier 8 1987	83½	84½
Colombia 8¾ 1988	88	90
Cons Food 7¾ 1991	83	84
Copenhagen County Auth 7¾ 1987	77½	79
Coventry 8¾ 1981	87	89
Coventry 8¾ 1990	85	87
Currecao Tokio 8¾ 1988	85½	86½
Cutler Hammer 8 1987	87½	88½
Dana 8 1987	80½	83½
Denmark Kingdom 7¾ 1990	79	80
Denmark Mtge Bank 7¾ 1991	74½	75½
Dundee 9¾ 1983	85½	87½
Escom 9¾ 1989	85	87
EIB 8¾ 1988	87	89
Eurofima 8¾ 1989	87	89
First Chicago 7 1980	90½	91½
First Pennsylvania 7¾ 1984	78	80
Fisons 8¾ 1987	69	72
GATX 8¾ 1987	85	86
General Cable 8¾ 1987	83	83
Guardian Royal 8 1987	78	81
GHH 7¾ 1988	80	81
Hambros 7¾ 1987	68	71
Hammersly 8 1987	74	76
Hilton 7¾ 1987	56	60
ICI 7¾ 1992	67	70
Internatl Util 8¾ 1982	90½	91½
Kinnawort 8¾ 1987	70	73
Lancashire 9¾ 1981	90	91
Lonal & Gen Ass 7¾ 1988	69	73
Manchester 8¾ 1981	84½	86½
Mentro 8¾ 1991	78	81
Michelin 7¾ 1988	78	80
Mitsubishi 9 1989	88	90
Motorola 8 1987	88	89
Mt & Grindlays 7¾ 1987	68	71
National Coal Board 8¾ 1988	78	81
Norges Konim 7¾ 1990	80½	81½
N. A. Rockwell 7¾ 1987	79½	81½
N. A. Rockwell 8¾ 1987	83	84
Nottingham 8¾ 1979	88	90
Pacific Lighting 8 1986	83½	84½
Peawall 8 1987	83½	84½
Quebec Hydro 8¾ 1989	85	87
Quebec Prov 7¾ 1988	85	86
Queensland 8¾ 1987	84	85
Ralston 7¾ 1987	86½	87½
RHM 8 1988	67	70
SAS 8 1987	80	81½
Scantrail 7¾ 1989	86½	87½
Scantrail 8¾ 1988	90½	91½
Shell 7¾ 1987	86	87
Singapore 7¾ 1987	90½	91½
Sionih 8 1988	42	53
South Africa 8 1987	71	74
SIS 7¾ 1987	84½	85½
Standard Oil 8¾ 1988	99	100
Standard Oil 8¾ 1989	96	97
Standard Oil 8¾ 1988	96	97
Sylron 8 1987	73½	74½
Tenneco 7¾ 1989	69	69½
Tenneco 7¾ 1992	71	80
Textron 7¾ 1987	79	80
Town & City 8 1988	55	60
Transocean Gf 7¾ 1987	87½	88½
Union Oil 7 1989	65	69½
Union Oil 7¾ 1987	67	69
UBT 7¾ 1988	57	62
Utah 7¾ 1979	90	92
Utah 8 1987	85½	88½
Venezuela 8¾ 1987	90	92
Volvo 8 1987	80½	81½

	Bid	Offer
Wellcome 8¾ 1987	68	7[illegible]
Wm Glens 8¾ 1987	70	7[illegible]
HONG BONDS	Bid	O[illegible]
BASF (FF) 7¾ 1987	71½	7[illegible]
Rhone (FF) 7¾ 1987	63½	6[illegible]
Bat Int Fin (FF) 7¾ 1987	67	6[illegible]
Brascan (DM) 8¾ 1988	86	8[illegible]
BLMC (FF) 7¾ 1987	53	[illegible]
Charter (FF) 7¾ 1987	53	5[illegible]
Charter (DM) 6¾ 1988 85	71	7[illegible]
Courtaulds (DM) 6¾ 1989/94	70	7[illegible]
Denmark (DM) 8¾ 1989	66½	6[illegible]
Denmark (FF) 7¾ 1988	70	7[illegible]
EIB (FF) 7¾ 1988	68	7[illegible]
Escom (DM) 7 1993 88	67	6[illegible]
Esso (DM) 7¾ 1988	67	6[illegible]
Goodyear (DM) 6¾ 1979 87	85½	8[illegible]
IBI (DM) 8 1971/86	84	8[illegible]
Interne (FF) 7¾ 1987	61	7[illegible]
Nat West (DM) 8 1988	79	8[illegible]
Occidental (DM) 6¾ 1981 76	90	[illegible]
Sweden (DM) 8¾ 1979 88	84½	8[illegible]
Sun Int Fin (DM) 7¾ 1984	83	8[illegible]
Trans Euro Pipeline (DM) 8 1993	80½	8[illegible]
Voest-Alpine (DM) 8¾ 1988	92	[illegible]
$ CONVERTIBLES		
AMF 5 1987	97	[illegible]
Alaska Int 5 1987	57	[illegible]
American Express 4½ 1987	67	6[illegible]
American Motors 6 1992	50	[illegible]
American Medical 6¾ 1992	53	[illegible]
Beatrice Foods 4½ 1992	67	[illegible]
Beatrice Foods 6¾ 1991	84	8[illegible]
Beatrice Foods 4¾ 1993	73	7[illegible]
Borden 5 1992	77	7[illegible]
Borden 6¾ 1991	84	[illegible]
Broadway Hale 4½ 1987	51	[illegible]
Carnation 4 1987	97	9[illegible]
Cummins 6¾ 1986	71	7[illegible]
Dumon 5½ 1987	71	[illegible]
Dart 4½ 1987	71	[illegible]
E Asia Navigation 6¾ 89	92	[illegible]
Longhorn Labs 4¾ 87	63	[illegible]
Lucas 5 1987	60	[illegible]
Ford 5 1988	91	[illegible]
Ford 5 1988	55	[illegible]
Holders 5 1991	[illegible]	[illegible]
Gillette 4½ 1987	52	[illegible]
Gould 5 1987	61	[illegible]
Gen Electric 4½ 1987	69	[illegible]
Halliburton 5 1987	101	1[illegible]
Hertz 5 1992	18	[illegible]
Honeywell 6 1988	62	[illegible]
Hongkong Land Com 7¾ 1988	70	[illegible]
ITT 4½ 1987	58	[illegible]
ITT Sheraton 6½ 1991	72	[illegible]
J Ray McDermott 4½ 87	117	1[illegible]
J P Morgan 4½ 1987	95	[illegible]
Mobil Oil 5 1987	90	[illegible]
Nestlé 5 1988	71	[illegible]
Owens Illinois 4½ 1987	72	[illegible]
R Penney 4½ 1987	66	[illegible]
Revlon 4½ 1987	77	[illegible]
Reynolds 6¾ 1991	11	[illegible]
Rank Org 4½ 1987	51	[illegible]
Sime Darby 5½ 1988	41	[illegible]
Surrey Land 4½ 1988	71	[illegible]
Slater Walker 5½ 1987	15	[illegible]
Southland 5 1987	57	[illegible]
Sonlab 4½ 1987	71	[illegible]
United Overseas Bank 6¾ 1988	57	[illegible]
Warner Lambert 4½ 1988	80	[illegible]
Warner Lambert 4½ 1987	73	[illegible]
Xerox Corp 5½ 1988	69	[illegible]
DM-Denominated issue.		
Franc issue.		

Source: Kidder, Peabody Securities London.

ANSWERS to the Christmas Quiz

1. The Post Office. BLMC is the biggest employer in the private sector.
2. J. Coral (Holdings). Roche has the highest return on capital employed.
3. Five. Aluminium, Coal, Shipbuilding, Steel, Transport.
4. "Shell" Transport and Trading and Nippon Oil are joint first.
5. Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.
6. Farbwerke Hoechst.
7. Nippon Steel. The British Steel Corporation and August Thyssen Hutte are the public companies.
8. Consolidated Tin Smelters. The Fluorin family, the Prudential Assurance company, Barclays Bank International.
9. British Petroleum and British Leyland both have five directors with British and Commonwealth as their second.
10. It rose from 21.3 per cent to 24.4 per cent.
11. British Petroleum. Honeywell recorded the biggest absolute fall and Rio Tinto achieved an increase of over 100 per cent.
12. P & O for Bovis. Navcot's bid was all cash and GUS's almost half cash and half equity.

Issued at the request of Gold Fields of South Africa Limited and Union Corporation Limited by Hill Samuel & Co. Limited, Hambros Bank Limited and Barclays National Merchant Bank Limited

JOINT STATEMENT BY

UNION CORPORATION LIMITED
("UNICORP")
(Incorporated in the Republic of South Africa)

AND

GOLD FIELDS OF SOUTH AFRICA LIMITED
("GFSA")
(Incorporated in the Republic of South Africa)

TO THE SHAREHOLDERS OF UNION CORPORATION LIMITED

General Mining and Finance Corporation, Limited have only recently acquired a substantial holding in Union Corporation. They are now advising you to ignore the recommendation of the Union Corporation Board and its advisers. The interests and motives of General Mining may well be different from those of other shareholders.

Follow the advice of your Board and its advisers to accept the GFSA offer and disregard the General Mining circular dated 18th December 1974.

It is in your interest to send in your acceptance to GFSA not later than 10th January 1975.

JOHANNESBURG
23rd DECEMBER 1974

Duly authorised committees of the Boards of GFSA and of Unicorp have taken all reasonable care to ensure that the facts stated and the opinions expressed in this announcement are fair and accurate and the committees of the Boards of GFSA and of Unicorp accept responsibility jointly and severally accordingly.

See page 9

هكذا من الأصل

هكذا من الأصل

A message from Mr Cube.

"I had hoped to bring you good tidings. As it is, I'm still short of sugar.

The sugar shortage hurts us all. For you, it means continual irritation, not to mention ever higher prices. For us at Tate & Lyle it has meant a decline in the activity and earnings of our U.K. sugar refineries. Other divisions, like shipping, engineering, road transport and international trading are thriving; but the sugar shortage hurts everyone.

Do not think that nothing is being done. Everyone concerned has been making great efforts to ensure adequate sugar supplies.

But so far final agreement with the suppliers has eluded both the Government and the E.E.C.

Agreement must be reached soon. A sweet 1975 depends on it. Meanwhile,

Happy Christmas!"

Out of sweetness came forth strength

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Stock markets

Industrials quiet, golds active

The sight of a Father Christmas making the rounds of the Exchange trading floor yesterday (collecting for charity) suggested that the City had finally decided to abandon its cares and succumb to the festive spirit. But, business being business, the gold share pitches were surrounded by buyers who were encouraged by record bullion prices in London.

The industrial share sections, however, attracted only those who wanted to take their meagre profits of the previous fortnight. Property shares also gave up some of the gains chalked up since the Government decision to lift rent curbs, while banks were not helped by a gloomy interim statement from Keyser Ullmann.

A half-hearted rally in the final hour left Courtaulds a net 2p off at 56p, after 54p. Unilever 2p up at 173p and Beecham 1p up at 122p. But ICI (123p), remained at the day's lowest price.

Gold shares were very busy, with investors responding to forecasts that the gold price would soar yet higher in the New Year when United States citizens begin buying. Also helpful were reports that the Shah of Iran has modified his opposition to the Franco-United States plans to allow revaluation of official gold holdings.

Share prices came off the top in mid-afternoon, but the tone of the gold share market strengthened again at the close, when Wall Street buyers appeared in London. President Steyn (£20½), and East Driefontein (£9 11/16) stood out strongly, with President Brand (£26½), Consolidated Goldfields (230p) and Western Areas (660p) also firmer.

Views taken by the press or by stockbroking firms on the outlook for various sectors of the economy moved some share prices. Bearish comments on the outlook for profits in the chemical industry lowered ICI, as well as Fisons (163p) and Glaxo Holdings.

Newspaper and newsprint issues remained depressed, with Bowater down to 71p and Reed International easier at 134p.

But brewery shares often improved on reports of good Christmas spending—and in spite of opinions in some market circles that profits could be hit this year. Vaux Breweries did well, and there was further buying of Tollemache Breweries.

Toy shares, another traditional Christmas favourite, found buyers, helped by press comment on current sales progress. Cowan de Groot shares edged forward, and Dunbee Combex closed a few pence higher.

But the profit-takers moved in on building and construction shares, after a press survey suggesting heavy redundancies ahead had offset last week's hopes of fat contracts from the Middle East. Taylor Woodrow (86p), J. Mowlem (35p) and R. Costain (74p) were prominent in the list of those to turn down.

The heavier industrials, like GKN (106p) and Tube Investments (126p), were little affected by fresh reports of the crisis facing the motor and engineering industries. At 6½p shares in BLMC remained resolutely at their lowest-ever quoted price.

The store shares could display little of the festive spirit. Minor losses were suffered by Marks & Spencer (101p), Great Universal Stores "A" (91p) and other leaders. Food shares remained quiet.

Shares in Keyser Ullmann dipped to 37p after a grim-sounding interim statement. Among the major lending banks, National Westminster, again out of favour, closed at 98p—below par value again. Insurance issues also weakened, while on the property pitch, Land Securities (92p), Stock Conversion (65p) and Great Portland Estates (122p) gave ground.

Small losses were marked against oil shares, but interest remained low.

Trading in the gilt-edged market was very quiet and subdued yesterday. Jobbers said that turnover was minimal.

The price of long-dated stocks was marked up 1/16 point, while short-dated stocks also ended the session with 1/16-point gains. Most operators appeared to have arranged their positions for the Christmas period and subsequently withdrawn from the market.

Foreign Exchange

The dollar fell against most European currencies yesterday afternoon, to close rather mixed. Dealers said trading was quiet with single deals having disproportionate impact on exchange rates.

Interbank transactions were at a low level as many European banks had already "closed positions".

The United States unit dipped to 2.5600-5700 against the Swiss franc from 2.5840-5940 at the opening (2.5625-5775 on Friday).

The Swiss unit remained buoyed up by the absence of any announcement on further monetary moves by the Swiss Government following the Cabinet discussions on the country's economic and currency situation last Friday.

It had been generally expected in many market quarters late last week that Swiss ministers might announce further moves to stem the flow of "hot money" into the country, dealers said.

Sterling was firmer against the dollar, closing at $2.3305, up 50 points.

The Bank of England's sterling depreciation rate remained unchanged throughout the day from the opening 21.5 per cent—slightly narrower than Friday's closing 21.6 per cent.

Gold rose $5 an ounce, to a record level of $192.

Discount market

The Bank of England was required to assist the discount market in a small way yesterday, by purchasing Treasury bills directly from the houses in need. However, underlying factors indicated that the help was totally unnecessary.

The market faced a net take-up of Treasury bills, but the banks had carried above-market balances over the weekend, while note circulation showed a welcome fall, and Government disbursements were in excess of revenue transfers to the Exchequer.

Money was comfortable enough early on, enabling Houses to lower their bids from an opening 9¾ to 9 per cent down to 8 per cent.

Sugar prices advance up to £30 a ton

A sharp advance was recorded in London SUGAR prices yesterday with futures rising between £21.50 and £30 a long ton. The daily price was raised £25 on tone to £440 a ton.

The terminal followed through from Friday's uptrend and values were bid at limit up levels throughout the morning. No selling interest came into the pools which totalled 240 lots. Lebanon confirmed purchasing a cargo of white sugar on Friday and $1,152 C and F. Dealers said that although the sugar was not the cheapest offered, it appeared that the earliest available shipment had been taken.

In the afternoon futures moved ahead with the nearer positions trading at or just below the new limits for most of the afternoon. Profit-taking, arbitraging and switching boosted the turnover.

In Austria the Government has decided to introduce a quota system for the domestic distribution of sugar to prevent possible future shortages. The move, which comes into effect in January, will last for at least three months.

The opening tone was very steady. [illegible] unquoted. Aug. [illegible] limit up bid: Oct. [illegible] Dec. [illegible] March. [illegible] May. [illegible] lots. [illegible]

COFFEE prices were slightly dearer with [illegible] were lots 21 up and three [illegible] dearer. Outside demand was seasonally quiet and business in the ring was [illegible] of a book squaring nature. [illegible] warehouse stocks rose [illegible] metric tons last week to 121,600 [illegible] and were in line with general [illegible]

Mr Joseph Zimmerman, the vice-president, Pan American Corporation, said New York that coffee prospects for 1975 would be brighter if more financial and foreign producers cut their output. Earlier L. D. Ilsley, the Brazilian business recession at home and abroad "at least more than 500,000 metric tons of coffee, excluding the 300,000 or more tons carried by Japanese speculators, with producers and the U.S. and Cuban warehouses. He said a further cut in the United States production quantified at 52 cents per lb seems inevitable if the present gap between the LME price of 56 cents and the cruzeiro price is not greatly [illegible]

Afternoon.—Cash wire bars, £3,020.00-[illegible] a metric ton; three months, £3,[illegible]-63.00; Sales, 2,500 tons. Cash cathodes, £3,890.00-51.00; three months, £3,[illegible]-55.00. Sales, [illegible] tons. Cash wire bars, £[illegible]-39.00; three months, £3,060.00-61.00. Settlement, £3,[illegible]. Sales, [illegible] tons. Cash cathodes, £3,[illegible]-29.00; three months, £3,[illegible]-18.50. Settlement, £3,[illegible]. Sales, 475 tons.

SILVER prices moved ahead with LME [illegible] gaining between [illegible] and [illegible] the decline in New York on Friday [illegible] offset by the advance in the gold price. LME stocks were unchanged at 11,[illegible]30,000 troy ounces. Bullion market (fixing levels) [illegible] troy ounce (United States cents equivalent, [illegible]): three months, [illegible]; six months, 368.5p.

Commodities

[illegible] (£[illegible]): one-year, 220.0p (382.6c). London Metal Exchange.—Afternoon.—Cash, 198.0-99.0p; three months, 201.0-01.5p; seven months, 212.0-12.0p. Sales, 67 lots of 10,000 troy ounces (all). Morning.—Cash, 196.7-97.0p; three months, 202.7-03.0p; seven months, 210.00-11.0p. Settlement, 197.0p. Sales, 39 lots.

TIN ended higher with cash standard metal rising £8.50 and three months £8. Last week's stock fall of 360 metric tons to 2,040 was somewhat larger than generally expected. Afternoon.—Standard cash, £3,040-45 a metric ton; three months, £3,065-3,000. Sales, 300 tons. High grade Cash £3,040-45 three months, £3,060-31. Morning.—Standard cash, £3,055-40; three months, £3,[illegible]-45. Settlement, £3,040. Sales, 240 tons. High grade, cash, £3,035-40; three months, £3,000-005. Settlement, £3,040. Sales, nil. Singapore tin ex-works, $10952 a picul.

LEAD prices were firmer with cash metal [illegible] up and three months [illegible] higher. Modest interest for cash in the afternoon found supplies light. Stocks declined 125 metric tons to [illegible]. Afternoon.—Cash, £231.00-31.00 a metric ton; three months, £[illegible]-16.25. Sales, [illegible] tons. Morning.—Cash, £[illegible]-28.75-29.00; three months, £216.00-16.50. Settlement, £[illegible]. Sales, 2,000 tons.

ZINC closed barely steady and an early rise was lost. Stocks plunged 4,025 metric tons to 11,675. Afternoon.—Cash, £[illegible]-55.00 a metric ton; three months, £[illegible]-27.00. Sales, 1,950 tons. Morning.—Cash, £[illegible]-50.50; three months, £[illegible]-58.00. Settlement, £[illegible]. Sales, 3,600 tons. Producers' price, £360 a metric ton.

All afternoon metal prices are unofficial.

PLATINUM held at £[illegible]-£74.25 ($159.00-$174.00) a troy ounce.

RUBBER closed uncertain.—Feb. 21.60-26.30p per kilo; March, 25.10-25.75p; April-June, 26.00-27.00p; July-Sept. [illegible]; Oct-Dec. 28.00-[illegible]; Jan.-March, 28.25-[illegible]; April-June, 28.70-29.00p; July-Sept. 29.10-29.15p; Oct-Dec. 29.25-[illegible]. Sales, 51 lots.

MEAT (Smithfield).—BEEF.—Scotch hindquarters, 27.0-31.0p per lb; English hindquarters—heavy [illegible] KNCF, 30.0-32.0p; Ulster hindquarters, [illegible] KNCF, 30.0-33.0p; forequarters, 15.0-17.0p; Eire hindquarters—[illegible] KNCF, 28.0-32.0p; forequarters, 15.0-17.0p. VEAL.—English fats, 27.5p. (special quotation) and 30.0-36.0p; Scotch bobbies, 3.0-5.0p; Dutch hinds and ends, 30.0-36.0p. LAMB.—English small, 29.0-32.0p; medium, 29.0-31.0p; heavy, 26.0-30.0p; Scotch medium, 28.0-30.0p; heavy, 25.0-30.0p; hill, 31.0p (special quotation); one 28.0-30.0p; imported frozen: New Zealand D's, 20.0p; B's, 26.0-27.0p; S's, 20.0-23.0p; YL's, 27.5-33.0p. EWES.—7.0-10.0p. PORK.—English, under 100lb, 26.0-30.0p; 100-120lb, 23.0-27.0p; 120-160lb, 22.0-23.0p; 160-180lb, 24.0-27.0p.

POULTRY (Grade A) Smithfield.—Fresh chickens, 2-3lb, 20.0-22.0p per lb; 3-5lb, 24.0-27.0p; capons, over 6lb, 28.0-30.0p. Ducklings, 21.0-25.0p. Turkeys—hens, 8-12lb, 18.0-33.0p; 12-16lb, 23.0-33.0p; over 16lb, 28.0-31.0p; cocks, 20-25lb, 20.0-25.0p; over 25lb, 25.0-35.0p. Oven-ready Chickens, all sizes up to 6lb, 22.0-26.5p. Ducklings, 26.0-27.0p. Turkeys, all sizes up to 16lb, 23.0-26.0p; 16lb and over, 26.0-28.0p.

COFFEE.—Robustas closed steady, £1.50 to £4.50 down. [illegible] £462.0-62.5. A long ton: [illegible] £470.00-70.5; May, £474.5-75.0; [illegible] £476.0-76.5; Sept. £477.0-77.5; [illegible] £479.0-88.0; Jan. £489.0-83.0. [illegible] 156 lots.

ARABICAS closed quiet.—Dec. [illegible] 69.00 per 50 kilos; Feb. 560.00-[illegible]; April, 568.00-63.50; June, [illegible] 68.50; Aug. 568.00-68.50; Oct. [illegible] 69.00; Dec. 568.00-69.00. Sales [illegible] lot.

COCOA futures trading was slack [illegible] the final stages when the volume boosted by nearby price fixing switching between the December [illegible] March positions. The market [illegible] £8.30 to £10 higher. A further original tenders were posted during afternoon which made a total [illegible] lots so far. Ghana purchases of crop cocoa for the 11th week [illegible] season ended December 19 are [illegible] at 50,542 long tons, making [illegible] estimated 261,605 tons for the [illegible] to date. In the 11th week [illegible] season ended November 29 purchases were 30,756 tons which brought cumulative total to 1[illegible],433 tons. Dec. £435.0-40.0 a metric [illegible] March, £714.5-5.0; May, £[illegible]; [illegible] £621.5-2.0; Sept. £590.0. New contract: Dec. £509.0; March, £572.0-4.0. Sales: 1,42[illegible] including one option. [illegible] 100 days, 64.24c, 15-day average, [illegible] 65.46c.

GRAIN (The Baltic).—A [illegible] atmosphere prevailed in the [illegible] grains market with buyers [illegible] little interest in overstating [illegible] changed sellers' price levels.

London Grain Futures (Gafta).—EEC origin. BARLEY: Jan. £60.00, March, £63.75; [illegible] 66.35. WHEAT steady. Jan. [illegible] March, £64.30; May, £67.05. [illegible] long ton.

Mark Lane.—Trading was [illegible] because of end-year holidays [illegible] was little change price valuation following are average sellers' [illegible] tons a tone on for delivery [illegible] area. WHEAT.—Hulling (Hard) Dec. £66.50; Jan. £67; Jan. £68; deteriorable quality, Dec. Jan. £64. BARLEY: Feed. Dec. [illegible]

Home-Grown Cereals Authority location ex-farm spot prices [illegible] Fillingham WHEAT.—Ipswich, [illegible] Feeding BARLEY.—Darlington, [illegible]

Home-Grown Cereals Authority regional and United Kingdom [illegible] ex-farm spot prices for the week [illegible] December 19.—Spot milling wheat: South-east, [illegible]; South-west, [illegible]; Eastern, £64.77; East Midland, [illegible]; West Midlands, £[illegible]; North, £65.35; United Kingdom, [illegible]. Feeding BARLEY.—South-east, [illegible]; South-west, £60.50; Eastern, [illegible]; East Midlands, £60.30; West Midlands, £60.15; North-east, £57.63; North, £60.50; Scotland, £58.35; United Kingdom, £60.30.

OOPRA.—Philippines, December-February, $460 transfers a metric [illegible]

Recent Issues

[illegible]

The Times Share Indices

The Times Share Indices for 23 December 1974 (Base June 2, 1964 = 100) — Actual Base date June 2 1969 =

	Dec 23	Dec 20	Dec 19	Dec 18	Dec 17	Dec 16
The Times Industrial Share Index	54.31	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Largest [illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Smallest [illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Capital Goods	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Consumer Goods	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Share Values	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Largest financial and industrial	[illegible]	[illegible]	—	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Smallest financial and industrial	[illegible]	[illegible]	—	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Government stocks	149.49	[illegible]	—	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Fixed Interest stocks	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

A record of the Times 30 Industrial Share Index is given below.

1974	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
1973	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
1972	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
1971	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
1970	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
1969	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

Money Market Rates

[illegible]

Treasury Bill Rate 12%

Latest dividends

All dividends in new pence or appropriate currencies.

Company (and par values)		Ord div	Year ago	Pay date	Year's total	Prev year
Benson's Hosiery (10p)	Fin	0.6	0.6	—	0.6	0.6
Cont Stationery (10p)	Int	1.05	1.04	7/4	—	2.88
Farminster (10p)	Int	2.34	1.73	21/2	—	4.73
Keyser Ullmann (25p)	Int	1.64	1.37	27.2	—	7.16
Metal Products (25p)	Int	0.32	0.5	—	—	1.04
Moss Bros (20p)	Int	Nil	1.8	—	—	6.06
Nova (Jersey) (20p)	Int	Nil	Nil	—	—	0.74
Radiant Metal (12½p)	Int	0.75	0.75	7/2	—	2.13
Sobranie (10p)	Int	0.88	0.85	31/1	—	2.03

Spot Position of Sterling

[illegible]

Effective depreciation since Dec 21, 1971, down 11.1 per cent.

Forward Levels

	1 month	3 months
New York	1.00-1.20c prem	[illegible] prem
Montreal	1.00-1.20c prem	3.15-4.05 prem
Amsterdam	¾-par prem	[illegible] prem
Brussels	40-50c prem	[illegible] prem
Copenhagen	20 prem-par	1-1¼ prem
Madrid	[illegible]	[illegible]
Frankfurt	4½-3½pf prem	[illegible] prem
Lisbon	50c-par dis	[illegible]
Milan	[illegible]	[illegible]
Oslo	[illegible]	[illegible]
Paris	[illegible]	[illegible]
Stockholm	[illegible] prem	[illegible]
Vienna	[illegible] prem	[illegible]
Zurich	[illegible] prem	[illegible]

Canadian dollar rate [illegible] to the dollar.

Eurodollar deposit rates (approx. [illegible]): One month, [illegible]; three months, [illegible]; six months, [illegible].

Gold fixed am, $192.25 [illegible] pm, $195.00.

Krugerrand (per coin) $[illegible] ($[illegible]).

Sovereigns (old), $[illegible] ($[illegible]).

Grim BLM outlook in South Africa

BLM's South African subsidiary are expected to decline in the medium term and no dividend is likely on ordinary shares during this period.

This dismal prospect is revealed in the document outlining the scheme through which British Leyland is buying out the 22 per cent of the shares in Leyland South Africa which it does not already own. The acquisition is to be effected through BLM Finanz of Switzerland.

In the year to September 30 Leyland South Africa's profits slumped from R4m (£2.5m) to R1.99m on sales down from R96.2m to R91.7m. Car sales fell from 15,893 to 14,171, and commercial vehicle sales declined, too.

Sharp reverse to Sangers

Shares of Sangers, the second-largest chemists' wholesalers, fell 5½p to 22½p after a drop in first-half profits from £788,000 to £449,000, in spite of a rise in turnover from £23.2m to £27.1m. This was after charging £68,000 for exceptional items.

Delays in the approval of price increases are the main factor in the setback, together with high interest rates and the limitations placed on margins—notably those of suppliers.

BSC purchase likely

Talks are at an advanced stage for the sale to the British Steel Corporation of the materials handling business of Smith's Enterprises (Glamorgan), a subsidiary of Richards & Wallington Industries. The business is based at Llanwern, South Wales.

Gold Fields offer out

The Gold Fields of South Africa formal offer for Union Corporation has now been published. It argues that General Mining, with 28 per cent of the equity, does not plan a general offer. So it urges uncommitted shareholders to accept its bid. Otherwise, it argues, the Unicorp share price will fall. Among these other shareholders are Charter Consolidated with 10 per cent.

Wall Street

New York, Dec 23.—Recession and inflation worries continued to depress the stock market for the second straight session, driving it sharply lower in active trading. The Dow Jones Industrial Average sank 8.84 points to close at 589.64, after a 5.95 point drop on Friday.

Volume rose to 18,040,000 shares from 15,840,000 shares on trials, 589.64 (598.48); transportation, 139.28 (140.94); utilities, 66.05 (66.45); 65 stocks, 191.98 (194.42).

New York Stock Exchange index, 34.72 (35.23); industrials, 37.66 (38.10); transportation, 25.53 (28.91); utilities, 25.95 (26.26); financial, 37.88 (38.71).

	Dec 23	Dec 20
Allied Chem.	27½	28½
Allied Stores	16¼	16¼
Allied Supermkt.	2½	2½
Allis Chalmers	6¼	6¼
Alcoa	28¼	28¼
Amax Inc	31½	31½
Amerada Hess	14	14¼
Am. Airlines	5	5
Am. Brands	29¼	30¼
Am. Broadcast	12¼	12
Am. Can.	25	27½
Am. Cyan.	15¼	15¼
Am. El. Power	12½	12½
Am. Home	31½	32¼
Am. Motors	3	3
Am. Nat. Gas	25½	25½
Am. Smelt.	13½	13½
Am. Standard	8	8
Am. Tel.	43¼	44½
Amf. Inc.	8¼	8¼
Anaconda	12¼	12¼
Armco Steel	22½	22½
Ashland Oil	24¼	24¼
Atl. Richfield	68½	67½
Avco	5¼	5¼
Avon Prod.	26¼	27½
Babcock & Wcox	12½	12½
Bankers Tst NY	30½	30½
Bank of Am.	31⅛	31⅛
Bank of N.Y.	23½	23½
Bet. Dick.	14	14¼
Beth. Steel	27½	28½
Boeing	15½	15½
Boise Cascade	19	19¼
Borden	19½	19
Borg Warner	23¼	23
Bristol Myers	49¼	49
BP	8½	8¼
Budd	7¼	7½
Burl. Ind.	13½	14
Burlington Nthn	28½	28½
Burroughs	73¼	73¼
Campbell Soup	27½	28
Canadian Pac.	13¼	14
Caterpillar	41¼	42½
Celanese	28½	28½
Central Soya	6¼	6¼
Charter N.Y.	19½	18½
Chase Manhat.	31¼	31¼
Chem. Bk. N.Y.	30	29¼
Chesapeake Ohio	30¼	30½
Chrysler	7¼	7¼
Citicorp	23¼	23
Cities Serv.	44	45½
Clark Equip	19½	19½
Coca Cola	49½	49¼
Colgate	22½	22½
C.B.S. Inc.	25¼	25½
Columbia Gas	20¼	20¼
Comb Eng.	29¼	29
Comw. Edison	22¼	23
Cons. Edison	6¼	6¼
Cons Foods	11	11¼
Cons Power	9¼	9½
Cont. Can.	23¼	23½
Cont. Oil	28¼	28½
Control Data	9¼	9¼
Corning Glass	30¼	29¼
C.P.C. Intnl.	34	34
Crane	20½	20¼
Crocker Int	14¼	14½
Crown Zeller	23½	23½
Dart Ind.	17¼	17½
Deere	40	39¼
Del Monte	20	20
Delta Air	28½	29
Detroit Edison	7½	7½
Distil. Corp. Seagram	22	22
Disney	19	19
Dow Chem.	53	53¼
Dresser Ind.	16	16
Duke Power	10½	10½
Du Pont	89	90
Eastern Air	3¼	3¼
East. Kodak	89¼	89½
Eaton Corp.	18½	19
El Paso G.	10	10½
Equitable Life	10¼	10¼
Esmark	27½	27½
Evans P. D.	2¼	2¼
Exxon Corp	61¼	61¼
Firestone	12½	13
Fst. Chicago	13¼	13½
Fst. Int. Boston	24	24½
Fst. Penn Corp	13¼	13¼
Ford	33¼	33½
G.A.F. Corp.	9¼	9¼
Gamble Skogmo	17	18¼
Gen. Dynam.	17½	17½
Gen. Electric	31¼	32¼
Gen Foods	16½	17
Gen. Instr.	4¼	4¼
Gen. Mills	34½	35
Gen. Motors	30	31¼
Gen Pub Util N.Y.	10¼	10¼
Gen. Tel. El.	16¼	16½
Gen. Tire	10	10
Genesco	5¼	5¼
Georgia Pac	20¼	21½
Getty Oil	143	138½
Gillette	22¼	24
Goodrich	12½	13½
Goodyear	15¼	15¼
Gould Inc.	14	15
Grace	29¼	29¼
Grant W.T.	11	11
Gt. At. & Pac.	6¼	6¼
Greyhound	9½	9½
Grumman Cp.	8	8
Gulf Oil	16½	17
Gulf Wn. Ind.	25¼	25½
Heinz, H. J.	30¼	30¼
Hercules	15¼	15¼
Honeywell	85	85
Illinois Cent Ind	10¼	10½
Ingersoll	27	27¼
Inland Steel	30¼	30¼
I.B.M.	165¼	165½
Int. Harr.	19¼	19½
Int. Nickel	19¼	19¼
Int. Paper	32¼	33½
Int. Tel. Tel.	17½	17½
Jewel Co	12½	12½
Jim Walter	21½	21¼
Johns Manv.	16½	16¼
Johnson & John	79¼	81¼
Kaiser Alum.	12¼	12¼
Kennecott	26½	26½
Kerr McGee	83¼	83½
Kimb. Cl.	32¼	32½
Kirsten Cp.	20¼	20¼
Kresge S.S.	20¼	20¼
Kroger	15	14½
Ling, Myer	29½	29½
L.T.V.	8¼	8¼
Litton	21½	22
Lockheed	5¼	5¼
Lucky Stores	8	8
Magnavox	4	4
Manuf Hanover	23½	24¼
Mapco	29½	29¼
Marathon Oil	33¼	33½
Marcor Inc.	13¼	13¼
Marine Mid.	13¼	13½
Martin Mar.	18½	13
McDonnell	7½	7½
Mead	12	12½
Merck	65¼	66¼
Minn. Min.	48¼	48
Mobil Oil	32¼	34½
Monsanto	40½	42¼
Morgan J. P.	47¼	49¼
Motorola	32¼	32¼
NCR Corp	14	14½
NL Ind.	21¼	22¼
Nat. Biac.	12½	12¼
Nat. Distill.	12½	13¼
Nat. Steel	24¼	24½
Norfolk West	60	60¼
NW Bancor	31¼	32
Norton Simon	9¼	9½
Occ. Pet.	12¼	12½
Ogden	12¼	12¼
Olin Corp.	13¼	13¼
Otis Elev.	22½	22¼
Owens Ill.	30¼	30½
Pac. Gas. El.	19¼	19¼
Pan. Am.	2	2
Penn. Cent.	1¼	1¼
Penney J C	33¼	33¼
Pennzoil	16¼	16¼
Pepsico	29¼	29¼
Pet Corp	16	16
Pfizer	29¼	29¼
Phelps Dod.	24¼	24¼
Philip Mor.	47	47¼
Phila. Pet.	40¼	40
Polaroid	18¼	18¼
P.P.G. Ind.	29¼	29¼
Proc. Gamble	77¼	78¼
Pub.Ser.El.&Gas	10¼	10¼
Pullman	37¼	38½
Rapid American	5	5
Raytheon	24¼	25
RCA Corp	8¼	8¼
Repub. Steel	21¼	21¼
Reynolds Ind.	50¼	51¼
Reynolds Metal	15¼	15
Rockwell Int	19¼	19¼
Royal Dutch	25	25¼
Safeways	33¼	34¼
St. Regis	18¼	18¼
Santa Fe Ind	26¼	27¼
Schering Plough	48¼	48¼
Schlumberger	105¼	107
Scott. Paper	12¼	12½
Seaboard Coast	12¼	12½
Sears Roe.	47¼	47¼
Shell Oil	42¼	42¼
Shell Trans.	41¼	42¼
Signal Co	13	13¼
Singer	10¼	10¼
Sony	7¼	7¼
Sth Cal Edison	17¼	17¼
Southern Pac.	26¼	26¼
Southern Rly.	41¼	41¼
Sperry Rand	29¼	28¼
Squibb	78¼	79
Std. Brands	15¼	15¼
Std. Oil Cal.	21¼	21¼
Std. Oil Ind.	42¼	42¼
Std. Oil Ohio	57	58
Sterling Drug	29	29¼
Stevens J.P.	10¼	11¼
Stude Worth	28¼	31
Sunbeam Cp.	11¼	12
Sundstrand	11	11
Sun Oil	34¼	34¼
Teledyne	19¼	19¼
Tenneco	21¼	22¼
Texaco	20¼	20¼
Texas East Trans	30¼	29¼
Texas Inst.	83¼	85¼
Texas Utilities	20	20
Textron	13¼	13¼
T.W.A.	5¼	5¼
Travelers Gp.	18¼	19
T.R.W. Inc.	11¼	11¼
U.A.L. Inc.	13	13¼
Union Carb.	35¼	35¼
Unilever N.Y.	31¼	31¼
Unionamerica	1¼	1¼
Union Bancorp	6	6¼
Union Carb.	41	41½
Un. Oil Cal.	23¼	24½
Un. Pacific Corp.	68¼	69¼
Uniroyal	3¼	3¼
United Aircraft	31	31¼
United Brands	3¼	3¼
US Industries	9¼	9¼
U.S. Steel	37¼	37½
Wachovia	11¼	12
Warner Comm	7¼	7¼
Warner Lambert	23¼	24¼
Wells Fargo	11¼	11
West'n Bancorp	14¼	15¼
Westghs El.	9¼	9¼
Weyerhaeuser	26¼	27¼
Whirlpool	13¼	13¼
White Motor	7¼	7¼
Woolworth	8¼	8¼
Xerox Cp.	49¼	51¼
Zenith	9¼	9¼

Canadian Prices

	Dec 23	Dec 20
Abitibi	9¼	9
Alcan	18½	18½
Alg. Steel	24¼	24¼
Asbestos	12½	12¼
Bell Tel.	44¼	44¼
Can. Sup. Oil	21¼	23
Can. Int. Fd.	4.00	4.00
Cominco	23	23
Cons. Bat.	3¼	3¼
Distiller	32¼	32
Dom. Bridge	22¼	22¼
Gulf Oil	24¼	24¼
Hawker Can.	3.85	4.00
Hud. Bay Min	12½	13¼
Hud. Bay Oil	16½	18
I.A.C. Ltd.	16¼	16¼
Imasco	22	22
Imp. Oil	27¼	28¼
Int. Pipe	11	10½
Mass.-Fergan.	1¼	1¼
Power Cp.	8	8¼
Price Bros.	13¼	12½
Royal Trust	21	21
Steel Co.	24¼	24¼
Tex. Can.	24¼	25 b
Trans. Mnt. Oil	8¼	8¼
Walker H.	14¼	15
W.C.T.	18¼b	18¼

• Ex Div. a Asked. c Ex Distribution. h Bid. k Market Closed. n New Issue. p Stock Split. t Traded. y Unquoted.

Foreign exchange.—Sterling, spot, $2.3310 ($2.3270); three months, $2.3050 ($2.2860); Canadian dollar, 101.13c (101.11c).

The Dow Jones spot commodity index rose 0.39 to 335.10. The futures index was 3.10 higher at 358.42.

The Dow Jones averages.—Industrials, 589.64 (598.48); transportation, 139.28 (140.94); utilities, 66.05 (66.45); 65 stocks, 191.98 (194.42).

New York Stock Exchange index, 34.72 (35.23); industrials, 37.66 (38.10); transportation, 25.53 (28.91); utilities, 25.95 (26.26); financial, 37.88 (38.71).

Silver shows gains up to 20 cents

New York, Dec 23.—SILVER futures closed strong and mostly up the 20 cents limit. Traders were impressed by today's record prices for gold overseas and the firm performance of London silver. Dec. 465.00c; Jan. 465.90c; Feb. 470.20c; March, 474.50c; May, 482.50c; July, 489.70c; Sept. 496.10c; Dec. 505.80c; Jan. 508.70c; March, 514.60c. Sales, lots. Handy & Harman, 459.0c (447.0c previously); Canadian spot, Can$4.646 (Can$4.427).

SUGAR futures in No 11 contract closed mostly with limit gains of 2.00 cents on new-Xmas short-covering by commission houses. Jan. 48.26c bid; March, 44.75c bid; May, 42.86c; July, 39.66c bid; Sept. 36.87-30c; Oct. 34.73-60c; March, 38.95-40c; May 37.60c.

COCOA closed very steady.—March, 67.05c; May, 61.90c; July, 59.35c; Sept. 57.40c; Dec. 55.55c; March, 53.50c; May, 52.25c.

COTTON closed weak.—March, 37.00-05c; May, 37.65-70c; July, 38.55-60c; Oct

هكذا من الأصل

HINE connoisseurs' cognac

Stock Exchange Prices

Rises in gold shares

A cut above the rest! Drummond's Freedom Suitings

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Begin Today. Dealings End Jan 10. §Contango Day, Jan 13. Settlement Day, Jan 21.

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

BRITISH FUNDS

1973/74 High	Low	Stock	Price	Ch'ge	Int. only Gross Red. Yield
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 6% 1995	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 8% 1995	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Savings 3% 1965-75	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Exch 6½% 1976	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 6½% 1976	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Victory 4% 1976	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 10½% 1976	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 6½% 1977	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Exc 3% 1974-77	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 11½% 1977	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Trans 4% 1972-77	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 9% 1978	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Exch 3% 1978-78	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 3% 1979	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 11½% 1979	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Elec 4% 1974-79	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Elec 3% 1978-79	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas Cnv 9% 1980	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Fund 5% 1978-80	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 3% 77-80	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 3% 79-81	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 9% 1980-82	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 12% 1983	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Fund 5½% 1982-84	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 8½% 1984-86	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 7% 1985-88	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 3% 1978-88	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 3% 1987-90	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Fund 4% 1987-91	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Fund 4% 1993	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 9% 1994	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Redmptn 3% 1986-96	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 5% 1993-95	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 3% 1993-98	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 6½% 1995-98	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 5% 1997	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 9% 1999	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Fund 1½% 1999-04	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 4% 2002-06	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 3½% 2006-13	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 2% 2012-15	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Consols 4%	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	War Ln 3½%	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Conv 3½%	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 2½%	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Consols 2½%	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 3½% Aft 75	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN

1973/74 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div Yld pence	% P/E
[illegible]	[illegible]	Aust	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Aust	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Aust	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Aust	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Aust	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Aust	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Aust	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Berlin	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Ft Inv	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Canadian Mngd	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Ceylon	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Hungary	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Ireland	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Jamaica	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Japan	Asia	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Japan	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Kenya	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Malaya	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Mex

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Deadline for cancellations and alterations to copy (except for proofed advertisements) is 12.00 hrs prior to the day of publication. For Monday's issue the deadline is 12 noon Saturday. On all cancellations a Stop Number will be issued to the advertiser. On any subsequent queries regarding the cancellation, this Stop Number must be quoted.

PLEASE CHECK YOUR AD. We make every effort to avoid errors in advertisements. Each one is carefully checked and proof read. When thousands of advertisements are handled each day mistakes do occur and it is therefore that you check your ad and, if you spot an error, report it to the Classified Queries department immediately by telephoning 01-837 1234 (Ext. 7150). We regret that we cannot be responsible for more than one day's incorrect insertion if you do not.

"... Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men."—St Luke 2: 14.

BIRTHS

GARTON.—On 21st Dec., 1974, to Eugenie and Clive—a son (Gregory Gordon Paul Palmer)—a brother for Alexander.

HOFFMANN.—On December 20th at Cambridge Hospital, Lisa, to Sally (nee Johnson) and Christopher—a son (Alexander Henry).

KITTOE.—On 19 December, 1974, to Sheila (nee Blandin) and Nicholas, at King's College Hospital, Denmark Hill—a son, Peter.

KLEEMAN.—On 21st December at the Avenue Clinic to Manou and David Kleeman—a daughter Marie Talia—a sister for Susanna and Nina.

LEBUS.—On December 21st to Patricia and Peter—a daughter.

MASSEY.—On 20th December, 1974, at Southmead Hospital, Bristol, to Phillipa (nee Rowland) and Howard—a son, Philip Edward Horatio.

MORRIS.—On December 21st, 1974, at Epsom to Judith (nee Evans) and Ian—a son, a brother for Hilary.

PENROSE.—On December 19, 1974, at Nuffield Hospital, Truro, Cornwall, to Lesley and James Penrose, the Stable Flat, Trelissick Estate, near Truro, Cornwall—a daughter.

PINCKNEY.—On December 22nd at Epsom to Susie (nee Richards) and David—a daughter (Katherine Susan).

POLITO.—On Sunday, 22nd Dec., to Joanna and Charles—a girl—Lucasian Indigners. Both well.

TREFUSIS.—On December 16, in Auckland, N.Z., to Vanessa (nee Hildenes) and Nicholas—a daughter.

TRUCH.—On Dec. 20th at Kings College Hospital to Jennifer (nee Joyson) and Richard—a daughter Fiona Elizabeth.

WALTERS.—On December 22nd, at Linford Hospital, York, to Elizabeth Jane (nee Adamson) and Nicholas—a daughter.

WARNER.—On December 22nd in Perth, Western Australia, to Rosemary and David Warner—a daughter, Lucy William Street, Stanton Fall 6000.

WINES.—On December 19th to Jane and Phillipa—a daughter—Clementine who lived only two days.

BIRTHDAYS

We send congratulations and best wishes for your 21st birthday to: [illegible] Please forward to the birthday girl at the address above. Happy birthday and a happy year of love, Paddington.

MARRIAGES

BROOIE : Regnard.—On December 24th, 1974, R. Brodie to Ira Pasqito.

CARTER : WOOD.—On 21st December, 1974, at St. Giles' Church, Oxford, Steven (Giles) eldest son of Air and Mrs Nicholas J. Carter, of Basingstoke, Hampshire, to Nicola Lucy Goldie, daughter of Dr and Mrs Leslie W. Wood, of Oxford.

LESLIE : WILLIAMS.—In London on 19 December, 1974, Ian Murray Leslie to C. M. Vivian Williams.

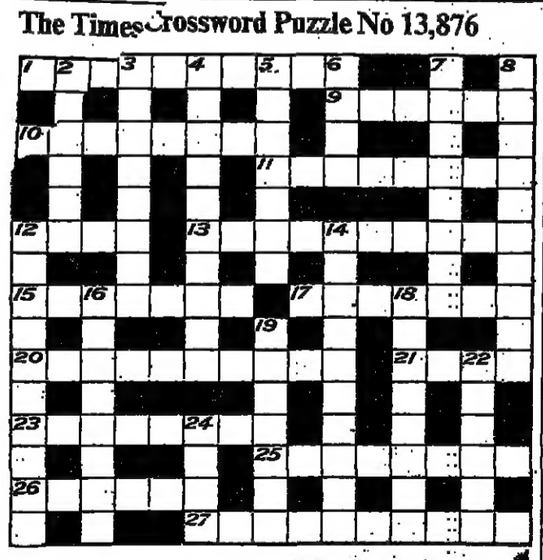
GOLDEN WEDDING

RICHARDS. Arthur and Gladys.—On 25th December, 1924, at Rugeley, Staffordshire. Congratulations from their son John.

DIAMOND WEDDING

CASE : BESSANT.—On Thursday, 26th December, 1914, at St. Peter's Church, Salisbury, Wilt. Present address: 28 Church Close, Salisbury, Wilts.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 13,876



ACROSS

1 Union shutter-up? (6, 4).
9 Also about a Florentine tailor's son (6).
10 O' fifty in bloom one comes after (8).
11 Lawyers lacking a heavenly sign? (8)
12 The grey a poet backed (4).
13 No work to hold one Commons sergeant, the simpleton (10).
15 His eyes are not raised to intellectual heights (3-4).
17 Trappings of Rex for example with other things (7).
20 Firm whose stock should hold its liquidity (6-4).
21 Unspeakable wisecracks! (4).
23 Heavenly bead (8).
25 Not where Canadians play hockey (3-5).
26 The sort of apple had marksmen can't shoot for (6).
27 A runnable member I ran down and made act (10).

DOWN

2 He violates the 1 (6).
3 Creamy dish for sick seaman in submarine (8).
4 The Count's broke! (4-3-3).
5 Dangerous bull on Norfolk Broads? (7).
6 Very full agreement by the sound of it (4).
7 BR diesel? (5-3).
8 They are likely to pocket the issue (10).
12 Think it's no accident (10).
14 Beats by bowling strength (10).
16 Biblical scholar, bluff, seen bathing in Hereford (8).
18 Herb's divine article (8).
19 Fell in gravity giving form to thole-wound baccy (7).
22 Right leg is broken, getting salmon (6).
24 To which the hooked fish dance? (4).

Solution of Puzzle No. 13,875

BRASS PLOUGHBOY
UMC AMPERU
LIMOUSINE TRICK
LOLLNITS O
HANDLE THREATEN
E E A R L
ASPERSIONS LIKE
DRYNDONS
STOW MAKEWEIGHT
V G N D C I
NUISANCE SADISM
Y S R N D R A
MORA ELOPEMENT
P O G R O N
HENDERS

DEATHS

ATKINSON.—On Sunday, 22nd December, 1974, at Ashford Hospital, Emma Atkinson, peacefully in her sleep, widow of Brian Hetherington Atkinson, and former President of Girls' Women's Institutes of Penang, Malaysia, Nigeria, and later engaged in social work in Rhodesia.

BANNISTER.—On 20th Dec., in hospital, in Worcester, John Sebastian, aged 25 years, loved son of Edward and Nina, and brother of Edward and Joanna.

BENNETT.—On Dec. 23rd, 1974, at her home Bridge Farm, Drayton, Joan West, Norman, Lawrence Bennett, aged 62 years, beloved wife of Ronald and devoted mother of David, Jill and Sarah. Funeral service at St. Peter's Church, Drayton, Norfolk, on Friday, Dec. 27th, at 12 noon. Family flowers only please.

BEST.—On 23rd Dec., in hospital, Marjorie Frances Farrington Best, of Red Lion, Cranbrook, Kent, Lewisham, in her 86th year. Cremation at 10 o'clock, 31st Dec., at Barnet and District Crematorium, Wood Street, near Cockfosters Station. Enquiries to S. Smith & Son, 127, Lingfield Rd., Edenbridge.

BUTTERFIELD. Madge, J.P., M.A., 30 Peel Close, Helmsley, York, in hospital, December 20th, 1974, beloved wife and mother of Ralph and Elson. Funeral private.

BUTTERFILL.—On December 23, 1974, peacefully, in nursing home, Little Amwell, aged 76, dear wife of George, adored mother of John, loved mother-in-law of Pam and darling grandma to Natasha and Sarah. Funeral at Hertford Crematorium, Warren Dell, Worcester, on Friday, 27th December at 3.15 p.m. Followed by cremation at Walton Down Long and be made to the Sterling Earth Leagues Benevolent Society, Verwood, Dorset.

CLARKE.—On December 21, peacefully, in her sleep at home, Cornfield Alice, wife of the late Francis Robert Clarke and devoted mother and grandmother. Funeral Thursday at St. Patrick's Church, Soho Sq., Friday, 27 December at 11 a.m.

CLIFDEN.—On Dec. 22nd, 1974, at his home, La Vielle Demeure, Beaumont, St. Peter, Jersey, C.I., aged 87 years, Arthur Vivian Vane-Percarbine, Marquis of Clifden, beloved husband of Margaret (Peggy) Carter. Funeral private. Family flowers only.

DANIELS.—On 21st December, 1974, at Crowborough, Eleanor Sybil (nee Tilley), aged 81 years, widow of [illegible] Daniels. Funeral service at Tunbridge Wells Crematorium, on Tuesday, 30th December, at 11.20 a.m.

DE MARCELLUS.—On 19th December at his home, 37 Grosvenor Drive, Poole, Dorset, Thursday, 19th December, 1974, Henri Charles de Marcellus, beloved husband of Rose (nee Gordon Clark) in his 84th year.

EDWARDS.—On Dec. 22nd, 1974, in her 79th year, in a nursing home at Crowborough, Kathleen Mary Edwards, wife of the late Rev. Ernest Edwards, daughter of the late Rev. George Sowdey, K.I.H., back for many years with the Church Missionary Society, Oxford State, South India, loved mother of Whyome Townend and the late, dear grandmother of Charlotte de Serdal and Joanna Lesley Townend. Funeral at Tunbridge Wells Crematorium, on Thursday, 2nd January, at 12 noon. Family flowers only. All enquiries to Paul Bysouth, phone Crowborough 5000.

FEARFIELD.—On December 22nd, 1974, peacefully, at Budleigh Salterton Hospital, Gladys Helen, in her 70th year, widow of Joseph Fearfield, C.I.E., fondly loved mother of Pearlose, Anne and Mary. Funeral Service at St. Peter's Church, Budleigh Salterton, on Monday, December 30th, at 11 a.m., followed by private cremation. Flowers to: J. W. Parsons, 45-47 High Street, Budleigh Salterton, Devon.

FRIEND.—December 19th, suddenly, at his home, 31 Dereham Road, Walton, Norfolk, Horace Bertram, beloved husband of Vera and dearest father of Paul and Oliver, aged 58. Enquiries: Tel. Walton 5211.

GABAIN.—On December 21st, at Chipping Norton, Charles Bond Adele Mary, M.B.E., dearly loved wife of the late George Gabain, formerly of the Hayes, dearest mother of Mary, John and Helen, mother-in-law of Pauline and Sigrid and grandmother to Ronald, Sean, Anne and David. Funeral Monday, 30th December, at 11 a.m., Forest Row Parish Church. Family flowers only. No letters, please.

GARNER.—On December 22nd, 1974, at The Old Palace, Wrotham, peacefully, after a long illness (courageously borne), Dorothy Caroline Rowena, beloved wife of Sydney Robert Garner and mother of Rosemary, Sheena, Tony and Susan. Funeral service Wrotham Parish Church, Friday, December 27th, at noon. Family flowers only, please.

GLYNNE-PERCY.—On Friday, 20th December, 1974, very suddenly, John Anthony (Tony), beloved husband of Ann and dear father of Richard, Colin, Diana, and Timothy (Tonto). Funeral Monday, 30th.

GORDON.—On December 20th, in hospital, Mollie, of Richmond Mansions, 118 Old Brompton Road, S.W.5, dearly loved wife of Harold and mother of Harold and Roderick.

HERBERT.—On December 23rd, at Kenilworth, Jan Mary Wood, loved and loyal wife of Canon Frank Herbert, mother of John, Caton and Andrew, [illegible] Nicholas and Jane. No flowers, please, at Nuneaton, Baired to Nuneaton Gifts if desired, Parish Church.

HIGHES-SMITH.—On December 20th, 1974, suddenly, Sidney Horlick, aged 74, of 7 West Heath Road, dearly loved husband of Estelle (nee Sperling). Service at St. Anne's Church, Kew, 2.30 p.m. on Monday, December 30, at 10 a.m. followed by private burial. No flowers please.

JES.—On December 22nd in hospital, Tom (Dick), dearly loved husband of Gladys, of 52 Charles Street, Griffiths Town, Gwent, brother in law of Fless and dear uncle of Zena.

KAARS SYPESTEYN, ELIZABETH.—On December 23rd, 1974, peacefully, at Rosenlaer, Blaricum, Holland, aged 81. Mother of Dik. Much loved by many English friends. Funeral Friday, 27th December at Groenekan, Hoevelaken, North Holland Tel. Haarlem).

DEATHS

LAWTON.—On December 21st, 1974, aged 75 years, William, of Ware Cable, Stratford Road, Wilmcote, beloved husband of Hilda. Service, St. Mary's Parish Church, Wilmcote, 12.30 Friday, 27th December. Private Cremation, at 1.30 p.m. South Bromsgrove.

LE BRASSEUR.—On December 22nd [illegible] after a long illness [illegible] Anne Le Brasseur, [illegible] wife of Dr John Henry Le Brasseur, K.S.S. of 14 Drive Lodge, The Drive, Hove, and loving mother of Paul. Requiem Mass at the Church of the Sacred Heart, Norton Road, Hove, on Monday, December 30th, at 11.30 a.m., followed by private cremation. Flowers may be sent to Hetherington, 4 & 6 Montreux Road, Hove.

McKECHNIE.—On Dec. 22nd, 1974, at her home, Marjorie Inge Connolly, dearly loved mother, grandmother and sister. Requiem Mass at Brompton Oratory, Thurs., Jan. 2nd, at 11 a.m., followed by burial at Putney Vale Cemetery, H.R.P.

MERCATI.—On December 20th, suddenly, at Trivelon, Suffolk, Lemuruo Mercati, of East Hampton, L.I., U.S.A., and Athens, Greece, devoted husband of Barbara. Funeral in Athens. Enquiries to 229 5544.

MOY.—On 22nd December, 1974, at Bexley, peacefully, after a short illness, Joan Gordon Moy, widow of the late Gordon Moy. Funeral 1.30 p.m., Monday, 30th December, at Bexley Crematorium. Flowers to H. W. Spicer, The Oaks, Avenue, Sidcup. Enquiries to Funeral Directors, Kellaway Crowborough 6464.

NICHOLLS.—On December 23rd at a Worthing Nursing Home, Bertram Nicholls, aged 91 years, late of Steyning. Funeral at Worthing Crematorium on Friday, December 30th at 3.00 p.m. No flowers please.

PARKER.—On Dec 19th, 1974, after a short illness, Bradley Borrie, Yvonne (nee Boulter of Bluemsgard), aged 57 years, suddenly mourned by her husband Harry Parker and family. Funeral 24th Dec., 11 a.m., The Chapel, Warlingham Cemetery, Sacred Heart Church, Lathbridge Road, Warlingham. No flowers, please, at request of her special request.

PHILLIPS.—On December 21st, 1974, peacefully, at his home, 47 Cliff Rd., Colchester, Lewis Wright Phillips, aged 90 years. Service at St. James Church, East Hill, Colchester, on Friday, December 27 at 2.45 p.m.

ROYCE.—On Dec. 20th, very peacefully, at St. Margaret's nursing home on the eve of his 85th birthday, Leslie Victor Royce, F.I.Mk., very dear husband of Elsie, loving father and father-in-law of Norma, Brian and Jennifer. Cremation on Friday, 27th December, 1974, at Randall's Park Crematorium, Leatherhead at 3.00. No flowers, please.

SCOTT.—On December 23rd, peacefully at her home, 9, Cavendish Square, aged 105, Mrs Amy Elizabeth Scott. Funeral arrangements later.

SHRUBSOLE.—On Dec. 23rd, 1974, peacefully, in hospital, Sydney James Shrubsole, aged 60, of Silverdale, Forest Lodge, Lisson Rd., Ashtead, a beloved husband and father. Service at Parish Church, on Sat., Dec. 28th, at 12.30 p.m. No flowers, but donations to the Rehabilitation Fund, Ewell Parish Church.

SMART.—On Dec. 23rd, 1974, at 103 Berkeley Court, Baker St., London, N.W.1, Barbara Dorothy, widow of Arthur G. Smart and mother of Maurice Johnson. Funeral service at St. John's Wood United Reformed Church, Woolbrooth Place, N.W.8, on Monday, Dec. 30th, at 3.30 p.m. Interment thereafter in Scotland. No flowers, please.

SORRELL.—On Saturday, December 21st, suddenly, at Southend General Hospital, Alan R. W. S. Sorrell, of 181 Downs Heath Road, Thundersley, Essex, aged 47 only loved husband of Elizabeth, dear father of Richard, Mark and Julia. Funeral arrangements to be announced later.

STEPHENS, ROBERT EDWIN, Group Captain R.A.F. (Retd), suddenly on December 14th at his home, Lantern Cottage, Broad Oak, Rye.

SUTTON.—On 21st December, peacefully, after a short illness, Major Arthur Louis Sutton, M.C., late The East Surrey Regiment. Cremation private, no flowers, please, but if desired, donations may be sent to: The East Surrey Regiment Charitable Fund, T.K. Centre, Portsmouth Rd., Kingston upon Thames.

SYKES.—On Sunday, Dec. 22nd in his 82nd year, at the Royal Homoeopathic Hospital, London, the Rt. Rev. Sir Hugh Sykes, dearly loved husband of Audrey. Cremation private, no flowers, please. Personal donations to Help the Aged or Oxfam. Memorial service to be announced later.

TAPP.—On Dec. 22nd, at Horsham Nursing Home, Ernest H. J. Tapp, M.B.E., dearly beloved husband of Ella, and much loved father and grandfather. Funeral service, 2 p.m., Monday, 30th December, at Steel Methodist Church, Steel, Hants. Flowers or donations to The Marie Curie Foundation or the Order of Christian Unity, c/o E. Finch & Sons, High St., Aldershot.

TICKNER.—On 23rd Dec., Monica Elaine, at Hertford, wife of John.

TREHARNE.—On December 23rd at Brongiais Hospital, Aberystwyth, Ellen (nee Roberts), aged 75 years, of Carn Lidl, a devoted mother and grandmother of Elizabeth, Jonathan, Rachel and Rebecca. Funeral Monday, December 30th. Service at Holy Trinity Church, Aberystwyth, at 10.15 a.m., followed by cremation at Shrewsbury at 1.20 p.m. Donations if desired may be given to: The British Heart Foundation Appeal, 57 Gloucester Place, London W1H 4DH.

TUCKETT.—On Dec. 20th, 1974, at Winchester, Francis James Tuckett, aged 90, husband of the late Dorothy and father of James, Robin and George. Cremation on Tues., Dec. 31st, Southampton Crematorium (West Chapel) at 3.15 p.m. Flowers to John Read and Son Ltd., 4 Chesil St., Winchester.

VERNEY.—On December 23rd, peacefully, Harry Calvert Williams, Bart., D.S.O., aged 85 years. Funeral service at Middle Claydon Parish Church on Friday, December 27th, at 1 p.m. No flowers please, but donations to Florence Nightingale Hospital, 19 Lisson Grove, London, N.W.1.

WELLS-COLE.—On 21st December, 1974, aged 81 years, Derek Charles Wells-Cole, O.B.E., F.R.C.S., of Sight House, 17 East Slight, Lincoln. Funeral Lincoln Cathedral at 11.30 a.m. on Friday, December 27th, followed by private burial at Kettlethorp. No flowers, please. Donations to Lincoln Cathedral Restoration Fund.

DEATHS

WHITSED.—On December 21st, 1974, at her home, Welldon House, Dorking, Mrs Frances Elizabeth (Lizzie) Jerrold 91, dearly loved mother of John and Betty. Cremation at Leatherhead Crematorium Sunday, December 29th, 12.30 p.m. No flowers please.

WHITWORTH.—On 22nd December, peacefully, at Belmont, Hereford, Mrs Bertha Mabel Hale Whitworth, in her 90th year, beloved mother of the late Lt.-Col. Edward Richard Gerew Whitworth. Funeral Service at Smallthyne Church, on Monday, December 30th, at 2.30 p.m., followed by cremation at Hastings. Flowers may be sent to T. W. Tuggle and Son, of 20, Alexandra Road, Hastings.

WOOLLAM. Hardy Morgan, peacefully, at his home, on December 21st, dearly loved husband of Babs (Georgie), father of David, grandfather of Christopher, Lorraine, Catherine and Victoria, great-grandfather of Hannah. Service at St. Mary's Church, Staines, on 31st December, 10.30 a.m. Flowers, if desired, may be sent to Lodge Bros., Ashford, Middlesex.

WORSLEY.—On December 21st, 1974, much loved husband of Joan, dear father of Elizabeth and Jocelyn.

WRIGHT.—On 22nd December, at Crowborough, Anne Lee, aged 37 years, widow of George William Wright (Captain Bishop of St. Helena). Inquiries to Paul Lewis, Funeral Directors, Edenbridge, Crowborough 6464.

YOUNG.—On Sunday, 22nd December, Elizabeth Irene Talbot (née Lister) of Rivol Lodge, 202, St. Albans Road West, Hatfield, Hertfordshire, peacefully after an extended illness, very dearly loved wife of John, R. A. F. (Retd.), mother of Patricia and grandmother of Nicholas, Anthony and Louise. Service and cremation Tuesday, 31st December, at Hatfield Crematorium. Enquiries to J. Burgess & Sons Ltd., Wilfred House, 11a Lemsford, Hatfield. Tel.: Hatfield 62121.

MEMORIAL SERVICE

MAUFE.—A memorial service for the late Sir Edward Maufe, R.A., will be held at 3.45 p.m. on St. Lord Cathedral, at noon, on 22nd January, 1975.

IN MEMORIAM

CABRAL.—In ever loving memory of Immanuel Henri Charles Cabral, The Gloucestershire Regiment, on his birthday, December 24, who died in captivity in Korea on Nov. 10, 1951, at the age of 23.—Ma, Julie, and Pedro.

HORE-RUTHVEN, PATRICK, Lieutenant, Black Brigade and S.A.S., only son of the Earl of Gowrie, V.C., killed, leading Field in a commando raid in Italy on December 24th, 1942. Died Christmas Eve, 1942.

BRITTAIN, SIR HARRY, K.B.E., D.M.C., D.L., LL.D. Remembering today his birthday with especially happy memories of his one Innsbruck last year. To an outstanding and enduring husband and friend. Love and gratitude.—Muriel.

CAMERON, ALICE MACKENZIE.—In loving memory, December 25.

DANIELS.—In treasured memory of Guy, who died Christmas Day, 1943.

JARRATT, JENNIE (Marjorie).—My cherished dear Mother, who lost me so suddenly and so very alone, Christmas morning 1974. God bless.—Your overloving John.

KNOX, TEDDY.—Christmas Day darling.—Your sunny presence will be with me. Rosebud.

MAGNUS.—In loving memory of Dora Magnus, wife of Laurie Magnus, 28th April, 1935. Much loved mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. 24th December, 1974.

MARTIN.—In loving memory of Ethel Margaret Wordsworth Martin on this her birthday, December 24.

MULLENS.—In devoted memory of my dear husband Edward, who died on Christmas Day, 1946.—Mary.

MURRAY.—On your charity pray for the soul of Thomas Murray who died December 24, 1964.

PREVOST.—In reverent memory of Annie St. Prevost, of Ellonds, Hawkhurst, who died on Dec. 24, 1970.

RAPHAEL, HUBERT ERIC "BERTIE".—In treasured and eternal loving memory of my darling beloved husband who passed over Oct. 27, 1973. With so much love and gratitude for all our wonderful years together and our love at your transmission. So much missed. Everlasting love, my darling.—His Own.

SAX ROHMER.—Happy memories of all those Xmas days shared with you. Micky darling. Hookham.

FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS

FLOWERS SPEAK

Flowers help soften sorrow and comfort those who grieve at the ceremony or from afar, express your sentiments with the gentle voice of flowers from your Interflora Florist.

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12 Kensington Church St., W.8.
01-937 0757

PUGH & CARR, KNIGHTSBRIDGE. Mortuary for all occasions. 18 Knightsbridge. 584 8226. 46 Gloucester Rd., S.W.7. 584 7161.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE CHEST AND HEART ASSOCIATION

will continue to help those who suffer from chest, heart and stroke disabilities.
Research and Rehabilitation is increasingly expensive.
Please send a donation or make a bequest in your will.
THE CHEST AND HEART ASSOCIATION, Dept. T, Tavistock House North, Tavistock Square, London, WC1H 9JE.

THE LADY HOARE TRUST is very grateful to those who continue sending really good clothing for sale in our shops. Proceeds go to the welfare of physically disabled children. Clothes should be posted or delivered Monday to Friday only 10 a.m.-1.0 p.m. 206 Pillitsmore Walk, London, W.8. Tel.: office 01-937 1848.

LET'S CONQUER CANCER in the Seventies. This is the aim of the Cancer Research Campaign. Isn't it yours, too? Please help to achieve it by sending as much as you can spare to Sir John Rees, Cancer Research Campaign (Dept. TX), Freepost, London SW1Y 5YT.

TONY BEAR.—I love and need you. I cannot forget you. I forgive all. I'll join you if you want me or await your return, at least write (174) or phone (9353) and let me know how you feel, or were we a lie too? I think about you every day. Love, Tree.

A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS and an adventurous New Year to all friends, from Encounter Overland.

JOIN the Middle Class Association. Write for details to John Horst, M.P., 55 Connaught Sq., London, W.2.

BY REMEMBERING US in your will you can help to bring help, hope and maybe a little happiness to some of the thousands of deprived children in our care at home and overseas. Will you help us? Please write for further information to Save the Children Fund, 157 Clapham Rd., London, SW9 0PH.

PRE-UNIVERSITY.—See Pre-University under Services.

EDUCATION PROBLEMS?—See Talbot Rice under Services.

H.—Always yours, never change, loving you.—W.

IBM ELECTRIC typewriters.—See Business Services.

EXAMS IN 75?—See Talbot Rice, under Services.

I.S.R. offer free advice on overseas employment.—See Gen. Vacs.

NORTH YORKSHIRE exiles will be sad tonight.

A & O EXAMS, Ochridge.—See Marsden Tutors under Services.

CARPETS, ex-Exhibition.—Sapphire Carpets.—See Sales & Wants.

TOP FLIGHT TRAVELS. Best value. Gen Depts. See Holidays & Villas.

KRUGERRANDS.—See our advertisement under Articles for Sale, David Owen Edmunds. (Gold & Diamonds Division.)

HOUSE/APARTMENT CLEANING? See Personal Services.

ALIDA.—Happy and blessed Christmas. All my love.—V.

FOR CHRISTMAS PRESENTS any woman would love to receive.—See Fashion and Beauty.

BAMBI.—I love you.—Happy Christmas.—The Squire.

CHRISTMAS APPEAL.—Please send a donation to help the many elderly ladies supported by Society for Assistance of Ladies in Reduced Circumstances. Cheques payable to Miss Smallwood's Society, Lancaster House, Malvern, Worcs.

MARIE.—Best wishes wherever you are.—Roger.

KAY WARING of Formby, believed married after Oct. 27, 1944, please contact A.P.R.S. Box 0545 M The Times.

MR offers bachelor newly converted 17th C part of Gore Street, Monkton. Tel. Thanet 88666, reasonable rent, for help with farm.

HE'S LUCKY
(we found him)

Dave 16 – from a broken home. Then – in London – no job, no prospects, no friends. Now in the care of Shaftesbury Homes he has a home, regular meals and a job – better still a future. There are hundreds of other Daves – decent lads who've got things wrong. It's not your conscience we're appealing to its common sense – Dave the drifter could have become tomorrow's criminal.
Please send a donation to help us to help those in trouble.

The Shaftesbury Homes and 'Arethusa', (Dept T15)

228a Shaftesbury Avenue, London WC2H 8EP

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

.....

هكذا من الأصل

PERSONAL COLUMNS

also on page 6

Classified Advertisement Department

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY

This office will be closed on 25th December

but open for telephoned announcements of Birth, Marriages and Deaths only on 26th December

9 am-noon on

01-837 3311

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RESEARCH TO FIND THE CURE

Are you a diabetic? Do you know someone who has diabetes? Remember you may just [illegible] to be of the world's oldest and most [illegible] diseases—please help us to find a cure. A donation to: Lord Fisher.

BRITISH DIABETIC ASSOCIATION
Dept. T20), 3/6 Alfred Place
London, WC1E 7EE
Tel.: 01-636 7555

CANCER RESEARCH

is vital. Cancer research is costly. Please send a donation, now, to Hon. Treasurer, Imperial Cancer Research Fund, Dept. T.24, P.O. Box 123, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London WC2A 3PX. It will be wisely used for the fight against cancer.

DO YOU ENJOY reading this column? Then you will appreciate "Tinderbox" column in the Times Saturday Review.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY. — Red roses today and everyday.—A.

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

KULDIP CINGH

33 Adam and Eve Mews,
High Street, Kensington
London, W.8
01-937 6150
01-937 6132
IMPORTERS AND WHOLESALERS OF FASHION GOODS
WISH THEIR CUSTOMERS AND FRIENDS
A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

CHRIS SHEPPARD, Warwick. Happy Christmas Chris and David, with all my love. Katherine.

MR. & MRS. DAVID CAMPION very much regret that owing to ill health they are unable to send Christmas cards this year but wish all their friends a Very Happy Christmas and New Year.

DR. GERALD WINCOUR regrets that will not be sending Greetings cards this year. He wishes his and his late wife's friends and relatives best wishes for Christmas and the New Year.

SIR NOEL and Lady Bowater of Coutters, St. George's Hill, Weybridge, Surrey, very much regret that owing to their present indisposition they are unable to send any Christmas cards this year. But they wish all their relatives and friends a very happy Christmas and prosperous New Year.

A MERRY CHRISTMAS and a Happy New Year to all Pinewood friends from Joan and Geoffrey Walters.

P.M. 24 B.C. Happy Christmas. J.

TRULS OVRUM regrets that owing to the loss of his address book he is unable to send Xmas cards to his friends this year and takes this opportunity to wish them all a Merry Xmas and a Happy New Year.—Velma and James.

MRS. F. LONGSTRETH-THOMPSON now home from South Africa sends Xmas Greetings to all and radiant best wishes for 1975.

JACK FRANCIS JONES, of the New Inn, Woodbridge, is sorry that for the 3rd year running he's not well enough to send cards. All his friends are wished a very Happy Christmas and more than just current Year 1975.

MRS. VALERIE SCHWAB-MORRIS and family send friends seasonal greetings.

SINCIR ADDINSELL regrets that yet again all his Christmas cards have been lost in the post.

UK HOLIDAYS

SCOTLAND / LAKE DISTRICT.—New Year, 18s-15s. Few seats available. £37.50 inc. Fun & Games Club, 177 Kensington High St., London, W.8. 01-937 6415/9780.

ALBARY HOTEL, Earlsdon Gardens, S.W.5, welcomes you. Recently modernized. 2 West London Air Terminal. 01-370 6116.

TORQUAY holiday flats avail. now, fully equip. 2 bed lounge, k. & b., sleep 4/6. £25 p.w. Sheldon 2334.

HOTEL FOR LADIES, 18 to 40. 200 single rooms. Partial board. £10 p.w. All amenities. Apply: 172 New Kent Rd., London, S.E.1. 703 4175.

HAWORTH, Brontë Country. Delightful old world Cottage. Avail. 28th Dec. Leeds 752977.

THURLESTONE, S. Devon. Wanted holiday house, 3-3 beds., 3 weeks from 25th July onwards. Tel.: Ilkley 812340.

RESTAURANTS

APHRODITE'S
DINE AND DANCE TILL 3 am
and enjoy superb entertainment
STAR CABARET NIGHTLY
featuring
LOS FABULOSOS PARAGUAYOS
XMAS EVE NEW YEAR'S EVE
GALA £10 GALA £15
We are open Boxing Night
85 PICCADILLY, MAYFAIR, W.1
RESERVATIONS: 01-493 1767/8

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9 ATTRACTIVE, EFFICIENT, GOOD HUMOURED SECRETARIES

This ad was placed on our successful series plan (3 days with the 4th day free) and within 2 days the advertiser had found his perfect secretary, and was able to cancel the ad. If you are looking for secretarial help, why not let The Times help you?

Ring 01-837 3311

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

A WINTER YOU'LL ALWAYS REMEMBER WITH SOVEREIGN HOLIDAYS

[illegible] Barbados [illegible] Eastern Winter brochure; [illegible] by British Airways, so [illegible] is guaranteed. There's a lot of the British Winter left, but not many Sovereign Holidays to find out more and find a travel agent. Alternatively telephone Saturday [illegible] hours), or contact your nearest travel agent.
ATOL 203BC. Fares subject to change.

CHRISTMAS AWAY

BRIGHTON SEAFRONT [illegible]

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

[illegible] Sunshine, Natural Seaside, West Africa, Far East and America. Scenery and people a delight. Details [illegible]
TRAVEL CENTRE LONDON
21 Dover Chambers,
129 Oxford Street,
London, W1R 1FA
CAA ATOL 113BC

THE AMERICAN CHILD—IS HE A MONSTER?

Why not find out by spending half-term or a week or two later in an American summer camp learning children sports, arts and crafts, etc. We handle FREE travel, let alone tuition, board and lodging for 4 weeks. £50 pocket money are also very cheap in price. For further information, write NOW on 24 Cadogan Gardens, S.W.3, or call 01-589 2323.

GREEK ISLANDS 1975

Take a break this January in Corfu, Kos, or Rhodes. Small coy. in villas, tavernas or hotels.—1975, Ring now for your brochure. Visit Greece has been voted travel magazine's Top Tour Operator. Tel. 637 9140/635 5715.
COSMOPOLITAN HOLIDAYS,
536 Regent Street,
London, W.1.
ABTA. ATOL 0119B.
SPECIALISTS IN GREEK HOLIDAYS.

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Specialists in Late Bookings to East, West, South Africa, Australia, New Zealand. Save far more—considerable savings on single and return fares. Contact Travelair, 40 Great Marlborough Street, London, W.1. Tel.: 01-437 5078/9 or 01-437 5378.
(C.S.A. ATOL 102D)

KENYA SPECIALISTS

Economy offices are closed until 30.12.74 when they will be happy to receive your calls for your holiday of a lifetime in Kenya—meanwhile
Write for details Economy, 2-13 Albion Buildings, Aldersgate St., London, E.C.1.

ZERMATT BARGAIN

1 week from Jan. 4 only £59. Joins a party in our Chalet Arnica. Price inc. meals, transfer and plenty of good food and wine.—Tel. 01-589 5478. John Morgan Travel, 30 Thurloe Place, London, SW7. ATOL 052B ABTA.

SOUTH AFRICA, AUSTRALIA and

New Zealand—at best value in fares and a comprehensive service.—Contact Gold Stream Travel Ltd., 25 Bromptons Square, London, S.W.3. Tel.: 01-589 2222 (10 lns.). Telex: 261417. ABTA Members.

NEVIS, WEST INDIES.—Alternate Tue & Wed. in this unspoilt island at beautiful Montpelier Hotel. Exec. suite, beach cottage, chalets from 01-736 0005. Rankin Keane. ABTA.—ATOL 326 ABC.

MALTATOURS, the Specialists for Malta—Easter and Summer 1975. Brochure now available. Write: 67 South Lambeth Road, S.W.8, or ring 01-582 8388. (ATOL 113B).

CANARY ISLANDS—HELLO SUN! Flats/hotels, quite all year, booking now for New Year.—Islands Travel, 100 Wave St., E.8. 01-985 5455. (ATOL 203 B).

MORE MILES per £. Flights to Africa, Australia, N.Z., Far/Middle East and Europe.—Eal (Airline Agents), 106 Sackville St., W.1. 01-734 0399.

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ENCOUNTER OVERLAND. 14 wk. Trans Africa expeditions leaving London Feb., March, Apr., May. £485 incl. Come to a film evening—for details call Encounter Overland, 280 Old Brompton Rd., S.W.5. 01-370 6845.

OWNERS SAVE £££s. flights to Malaga and